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Agenda items 12 and 91

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

Administrative and financial implications of the draft
resolution contained in document A/35/3/Add.5

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its ninth meeting, held on 7 October 1980, the Second Committee adopted a draft resolution recommended for adoption by the General Assembly in Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/46 of 23 July 1980 as contained in document A/35/3/Add.5. The Second Committee had before it a statement of financial implications (A/C.2/35/L.5).
2. Under operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to organize, as quickly as possible, with groups of donor countries and the financing institutions, and with the participation of Governments, United Nations institutions and African intergovernmental organizations, either consultative technical meetings based on the various types of programmes for the Transport and Communications Decade or consultative technical meetings based on groups of African countries or African subregions, for the purpose of finding the additional financial resources necessary to implement those projects for the Decade that are regional and multinational in character and of carrying out urgently the specific studies contained in the programme for the first phase and which must be followed by concrete action not later than during the second phase.
3. Under operative paragraph 15, the General Assembly would further request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the financial means and resources necessary to enable it to fulfil effectively its role as the lead agency for the Transport and Communications

Decade in Africa and to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1981, a progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Decade.

4. Prior to the adoption of resolution 1980/46 by the Council, the latter was informed that under the terms of these paragraphs, conference-servicing costs would be incurred which could be considered as a proper charge against the regular budget. In so far as the precise venue, timing and structure of the proposed meetings were not determined, it was not possible, at that stage, to estimate with precision the exact level of expenditures likely to be incurred for convening those meetings. It was tentatively estimated that four meetings would be required, each of which would cost \$49,360 for conference servicing.

5. It was further indicated at the time that other related costs for the substantive servicing of the meetings would arise but that, in view of their direct relationship to technical co-operation activities, they would have to be met from extrabudgetary resources. The total cost under the regular budget for the four meetings was thus estimated at \$197,440.

6. Further consultations with the ECA secretariat, following the adoption of Council resolution 1980/46, resulted in additional information on which a cost estimate of the above meetings can be based. That information is as follows:

(a) Four consultative technical meetings based on the African subregions would be held in 1981 as follows:

- (i) For West Africa, at Freetown, Sierra Leone, in February;
- (ii) For East Africa, at Salisbury, Zimbabwe, in May;
- (iii) For Central Africa, at Yaounde, United Republic of Cameroon, in November;
- (iv) For North Africa, at Rabat, Morocco, in November;

(b) While for the first three meetings, the working languages would be English and French, Arabic translation and interpretation services would be provided in addition for the Rabat meeting;

(c) In view of the limited capacity of ECA language services, interpretation and translation requirements for all meetings would have to be met from temporary staff recruited at Geneva;

(d) The participation of four Professional staff members of ECA, assisted by two secretaries, would be required at each meeting.

7. On that basis, the cost of the four meetings is estimated as follows: 1/

1/ For details, see the annex to the present document.

	<u>\$</u>
Freetown	54,500
Salisbury	55,200
Yaounde	54,200
Rabat	<u>57,200</u>
Total	<u><u>221,100</u></u>

It is further estimated that the holding of these meetings would give rise to additional costs for secretarial assistance in connexion with the preparation of the documentation (one English- and one French-speaking secretary for two work months each), communications, freight for documents and supplies and materials.

8. It is thus estimated that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/35/3/Add.5, an additional appropriation of \$250,600 would be required under section 13 of the 1980-1981 programme budget, broken down as follows:

	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
(a) <u>Meeting costs</u>		
Temporary assistance for meetings	179,100	
Travel of (substantive) staff to meetings	<u>42,000</u>	221,100
(b) <u>Undistributed costs</u>		
General temporary assistance	3,000	
Communications (cables, telex, postage, telephone and pouch)	4,000	
Freight for documents	4,000	
Supplies and materials	<u>18,500</u>	<u>29,500</u>
Total		<u><u>250,600</u></u>

Annex

COST OF SUBREGIONAL MEETINGS AS A FOLLOW-UP
 TO THE PLEDGING CONFERENCE

(In United States dollars)

A. West Africa: Freetown, Sierra Leone
 (19-21 February 1981)

	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Interpretation</u>				
(French and English interpreters)				
Salary (international rate)	4	7	170	4 760
Subsistence	4	7	60	1 680
Travel	4			6 960
<u>Pre-meeting documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries.				
Translation	2	15	185	5 550
Revision	1	8	210	1 680
Typing	4	15	69	4 140
<u>In-session documentation</u>				
Translators	2	7	110	1 540
Travel				3 480
Subsistence	2	7	60	840
<u>Participation of ECA staff</u>				
Travel	6			9 600
Subsistence	6	8	60	2 880
<u>Post-session documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries.				
Translation	2	15	185	5 550
Revision	1	8	210	1 680
Typing	4	15	69	4 140
Total				54 480
Total (rounded)				54 500

B. East Africa: Salisbury, Zimbabwe
 (7-9 May 1981)

	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Interpretation</u>				
(French and English interpreters)				
Salary (international rate)	4	7	170	4 760
Subsistence	4	7	87	2 440
Travel				9 240
<u>Pre-meeting documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries.				
Translation	2	15	185	5 550
Revision	1	8	210	1 680
Typing	4	15	69	4 140
<u>In-session documentation</u>				
Translators	2	7	110	1 540
Travel	2			4 620
Subsistence	2	7	87	1 220
<u>Participation of ECA staff</u>				
Travel	6			5 520
Subsistence	6	8	87	3 130
<u>Post-session documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries:				
Translation	2	15	185	5 550
Revision	1	8	210	1 680
Typing	4	15	69	4 140
			<u>Total</u>	55 210
			<u>Total (rounded)</u>	<u>55 200</u>

C. Central Africa: Yaounde, United Republic of Cameroon
 (4-6 November 1981)

	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Interpretation</u>				
(French and English interpreters)				
Salary (international rate)	4	7	170	4 760
Subsistence	4	7	72	2 010
Travel				8 240
<u>Pre-meeting documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries:				
Translation	2	15	185	5 550
Revision	1	8	210	1 680
Typing	4	15	69	4 140
<u>In-session documentation</u>				
Translators	2	7	110	1 540
Travel	2			4 120
Subsistence	2	7	72	1 010
<u>Participation of ECA staff</u>				
Travel	6			6 300
Subsistence	6	8	72	3 460
<u>Post-session documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries:				
Translation	2	15	185	5 550
Revision	1	8	210	1 680
Typing	4	15	69	4 140
				<hr/>
		Total		54 180
		Total (rounded)		<hr/> <hr/> 54 200

D. North Africa: Rabat, Morocco
 (23-25 November 1981)

	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Interpretation</u>				
(French, English and Arabic interpreters)				
Salary (international rate)	6	5	170	5 100
Subsistence	6	5	51	1 530
Travel				3 480
<u>Pre-meeting documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries:				
Translation	3	15	185	8 320
Revision	2	8	210	3 360
Typing	6	10	69	4 140
<u>In-session documentation</u>				
Translators	3	5	110	1 650
Travel				1 740
Subsistence	3	5	51	760
<u>Participation of ECA staff</u>				
Travel	6			9 720
Subsistence	6	5	51	1 530
<u>Post-session documentation (150 pages)</u>				
Salaries:				
Translation	3	15	185	8 320
Revision	2	8	210	3 360
Typing	6	10	69	4 140
				57 150
				57 200