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

Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied
Arab territories

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.2/35/L.9

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

1. The Second Committee, at its 17th meeting held on 14 October 1980, adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/35/L.9. It had before it a statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.2/35/L.11).
2. In operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/35/L.9, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session a report taking into consideration the provisions of paragraph 2 of Assembly resolution 32/161.
3. In paragraph 2 of resolution 32/161, the General Assembly noted that, owing to the time constraint, incomplete coverage and technical and other limitations, a previous report 1/ did not cover all pertinent losses, such as:
 - (a) The adverse economic effects extending beyond the year 1975;
 - (b) Losses in the Arab territories still under Israeli occupation;
 - (c) Human and military losses;

1/ A/32/204.

(d) The loss of and damage to items of the national, religious and cultural heritage;

(e) Losses in the traditional sectors, including the retail trading, small industries and farming sectors;

(f) The full impact on the development process of the Arab States, territories and peoples subjected to Israeli aggression and occupation.

4. It will be recalled that for the preparation of the previous report referred to in paragraph 3 above, 14 work months of Professional services at the P-5 level and 7 work months of secretarial assistance had been requested. 2/ Taking this previous experience into account, it is proposed that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/35/L.9, an expenditure for consultancy fees and travel in the amount of \$76,100, to cover the cost of 14 work months of consultancy services at the P-5 level (\$66,000) and 7 work months of temporary assistance at the General Service level (\$10,100), would be required to assist in the preparation of the further report envisaged in the draft resolution.

5. It will be further recalled that the General Assembly had, at its thirty-fourth session, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding \$77,750, under section 14 (Economic Commission for Western Asia) of the regular programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981, for the preparation of a similar report requested under resolution 34/136. As the Secretary-General has already reported in his note on the subject (document A/35/514), it did not prove possible to undertake the preparation of that report, and hence no commitments were entered into during 1980 in connexion with that authorization.

6. It is now considered, following a review of the scope of the request contained in document A/C.2/35/L.9, that the preparation of the proposed report will require, in addition to consultancy services along the lines indicated above, the contributions and involvement of several United Nations entities including the Economic Commission for Western Asia, the Departments of Technical Co-operation for Development and International Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). Input may also be required from a number of specialized agencies. Consultations are now under way in order to work out an appropriate division of responsibility and to determine the most effective co-operative arrangements for the preparation of the report. In the meantime, it is proposed that, for administrative purposes, the resources referred to under paragraph 4 above be placed under section 7 (Department of Technical Co-operation for Development) of the regular programme budget.

7. Every effort will be made to meet expenditures to be incurred by the units concerned in connexion with the preparation of the report over and above those referred to in paragraph 4 above within existing resources.

8. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/35/L.9, an additional appropriation of \$76,100 would be required under section 7, which would be broken down as \$66,000 for consultancy services and \$10,100 for temporary assistance.