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FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 91 and 64 (b)

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE

Assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation  
and development of the Central African Republic

Special economic assistance to Benin

Assistance to Zimbabwe

Assistance to Saint Lucia

Administrative and financial implications of the draft  
resolutions contained in documents A/C.2/35/L.60/Rev.1,  
A/C.2/35/L.71, A/C.2/35/L.85 and A/C.2/35/L.86

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 44th meeting, held on 19 November 1980, adopted the draft resolutions contained in documents A/C.2/35/L.60/Rev.1, A/C.2/35/L.71, A/C.2/35/L.85 and A/C.2/35/L.86. It had before it a statement of financial implications (A/C.2/35/L.99).
2. The specific requests for action to be undertaken by the Secretary-General as they relate to each of the draft resolutions are indicated below:
  - (a) Assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the Central African Republic (A/C.2/35/L.60/Rev.1)

Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, inter alia, request the Secretary-General to organize an international programme of financial, technical and material assistance to the Central African Republic, to enable it to meet its long-term and short-term needs with respect to reconstruction,

rehabilitation and development and to dispatch a mission to the Central African Republic with a view to holding consultations with the Government on the additional assistance which it needs for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of the country and to communicate the report of this mission to the international community.

(b) Special economic assistance to Benin (A/C.2/35/L.71)

Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, inter alia, request the Secretary-General to take steps to re-evaluate the specific economic problems encountered by Benin and, in consultation with the Government, to establish an international programme of assistance to meet the specific economic and development needs of the country and to mobilize the necessary resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Benin.

(c) Assistance to Zimbabwe (A/C.2/35/L.85)

Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, inter alia, request the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize resources for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Zimbabwe and to arrange for a review of the progress made in organizing and implementing the assistance programme for that country in time for the matter to be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session.

(d) Assistance to Saint Lucia (A/C.2/35/L.86)

Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, inter alia, request the Secretary-General to mobilize the financial, technical and economic assistance of the international community, in particular that of the United Nations system, with a view to helping to meet the short-term and long-term development needs of Saint Lucia and to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session an analytical report on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution.

3. With respect to the draft resolutions referred to above, requirements would arise as a result of the need for the Secretary-General to send consulting missions to the countries concerned. In addition to the initial mission to each country, follow-up travel to Africa and Western Asia would also be required in respect of draft resolutions A/C.2/35/L.60/Rev.1 and L.71 (Central African Republic and Benin) for consultations with potential donors, voluntary agencies and international organizations.

4. The missions to be undertaken in 1981 would be composed of three persons, one USG/ASG, one consultant and one Professional. The missions to the Central African Republic and Benin would be accompanied, in addition, by a secretary. The missions will include experts from the various agencies concerned, such as FAO, WFP, WHO, UNCTAD and UNICEF. Hitherto, in most cases, the agencies have been able to absorb the cost of their participation in missions on behalf of the special economic assistance programmes and it is hoped that they will be able to do so in

respect of the missions proposed herein. However, in view of the increasing demands on their own budgets, this may no longer be possible. The additional resources required in this event are shown for each of the various missions. As indicated above, the following missions would be undertaken in 1981:

	<u>Total</u>
(a) <u>Benin and Central African Republic: Duration 18 days</u>	
Consultant (including travel)	\$ 9,000
Travel of United Nations staff (combined mission plus one trip to Africa and Western Asia for consultations)	21,300
Miscellaneous	600
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Subtotal	\$30,900
Travel of participants from specialized agencies (if necessary)	13,750
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Total	\$44,650
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(b) <u>Zimbabwe: Duration 12 days</u>	
Consultant (including travel)	\$ 9,500
Travel of United Nations staff	8,700
Miscellaneous	600
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Subtotal	\$18,800
Travel of participants from specialized agencies (if necessary)	15,250
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Total	\$34,050
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(c) <u>Saint Lucia: Duration 8 days</u>	
Consultant (including travel)	\$ 6,500
Travel of United Nations staff	2,200
Miscellaneous	600
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Subtotal	\$ 9,300
Travel of participants from specialized agencies (if necessary)	14,200
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Total	\$23,500
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Thus, the total estimated cost of the proposed missions and related travel is \$102,200 as follows:

Consultants (including travel)	\$ 25,000
United Nations staff	32,200
Miscellaneous	1,800
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Subtotal	\$ 59,000
Representatives of specialized agencies, if necessary (costed on basis of 5 representatives per mission)	43,200
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Total	<u><u>\$102,200</u></u>

5. Owing to the increased number of special economic assistance programmes for which the Unit would be responsible, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolutions, the Secretary-General would propose a strengthening of the staff resources of the Unit. A complete statement of the work programme during 1979 and that anticipated for 1980 for the Unit for Special Economic Assistance Programmes was provided in document A/C.5/34/50. If the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly should adopt the draft resolutions L.60/Rev.1, L.71, L.85 and L.86, still further work will be required of the Unit.

6. For 1981, the Unit will have primary responsibility for the implementation of special economic assistance programmes in 22 countries which represent an increase of six countries over the number previously covered. It will be involved, further, on behalf of the Secretary-General, in the implementation of five resolutions relating to refugees and disasters. In order to carry the workload which these activities will involve, resources are requested for one Professional officer at the P-5 level, supported by a General Service post at the G-4/3 level, as follows:

Temporary posts . . . . .	\$28,400
Common staff costs. . . . .	17,000
Common service costs. . . . .	11,200
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	<u><u>\$56,600</u></u>

7. Should the draft resolutions contained in documents A/C.2/35/L.60/Rev.1, A/C.2/35/L.71, A/C.2/35/L.85 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/35/L.86 be adopted, the following additional appropriations would be required at this time for the 1980-1981 programme budget:

<u>Section 1</u>	¢	¢
Consultants	25,000	
Temporary posts	28,400	
Common staff costs	17,000	
Travel	32,200	
Miscellaneous	1,800	104,400
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<u>Section 28D</u>		
Accommodation	6,500	
Furniture	3,400	
Office supplies	250	
Office machines	200	
Communications	900	11,200
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<u>Section 31</u>		
Staff assessment		10,000
<u>Income section 1</u>		
Income from staff assessment		(10,000)
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		115,600
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8. Should the agencies concerned be unable to provide for the travel of their own staff, as discussed in paragraph 4, the Secretary-General may be required to seek additional appropriations for this purpose in the context of the final performance report for the biennium 1980-1981.