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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
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Agenda item 3

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution entitled
"Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full
implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for
Action" contained in E/CN.6/1998/L.11

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance
with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and
Social Council

1. Under the terms of draft resolution E/CN.6/1998/L.11, the Economic and Social Council would recommend that the General Assembly, inter alia:

(a) Decide that the high-level plenary review should be held as a special session of the General Assembly for five days, from 5 to 9 June 2000 to appraise and access the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Beijing Platform for Action five years after its adoption and to consider further actions and initiatives;

(b) Decide that the preparatory work for the review should be carried out by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions, in 1999 and 2000, respectively, and that the forty-third and forty-fourth sessions would each be extended by five days to complete the preparations.

2. With regard to the special session of the General Assembly in 2000, it is anticipated that there would be four meetings a day (or a total of 20 meetings for one week) with full services, including the provision of verbatim records for plenary meetings only and interpretation for meetings of the ad hoc committee of the whole. The volume of documentation is estimated at 150 pages

pre-session, 40 pages in-session and 32 pages post-session, to be issued in six languages.

3. The extension of the forty-third and forty-fourth sessions of the Commission would entail the provision for each session of 10 additional meetings with interpretation services in six languages. The volume of documentation, in addition to the regular workload for each two-week annual session is estimated at 30 pages pre-session, 21 pages in-session and 10 pages post-session. The timing of the Commission's sessions in 1999 and 2000, however, may need to be reviewed to take into account the proposed one-week extension and the availability of conference facilities.

4. The conference and general services requirements in 2000 are estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$532,700 for the special session and \$149,700 for the one-week extension of the forty-fourth session of the Commission, or a total estimated cost of \$682,400. These requirements will be dealt with within the overall provision for the conference-servicing of United Nations meetings and conferences to be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

5. The holding of the special session would require that the costs of travel but not subsistence of one representative from each least developed country attending the special session be met from the regular budget in accordance with established practice. These costs are estimated at \$338,000 and will also be dealt with in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

6. The Office of Communications and Public Information would provide information coverage for the special session. The activities, costed on a preliminary basis of \$600,000, would be implemented from within the resources to be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

7. The conference and general services requirements for the one-week extension of the forty-third session of the Commission in 1999 are estimated at \$147,400 on a full-cost basis. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1999. However, provisions have been made, under section 1B (General Assembly affairs and conference services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999, not only for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings are consistent with the pattern of meetings of past years.

8. Should the Commission adopt the draft resolution, no additional appropriation would be required during the current biennium.
