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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution  
contained in document A/36/L.18

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

1. Under the terms of the draft resolution contained in document A/36/L.18, the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(a) Approve the convening of the eleventh, final decision-making session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in New York for the period from 8 March to 30 April 1982;

(b) Authorize the conference to extend its work beyond 30 April 1982, in consultation with the Secretary-General, exclusively for the purpose of completing its work, should the formal stage of adoption of the Convention of the text of the draft resolution on the establishment of the Preparatory Commission, of the Final Act and of other pertinent decisions have started, and more time be needed to finish the decision-making process;

(c) Also approve the convening of the Drafting Committee of the Conference in New York from 18 January to 26 February 1982;

(d) Recommend that the Secretary-General should provide the necessary facilities for informal consultations to delegations participating in the Conference, in particular, to the members of the Group of 77;

(e) Request the Secretary-General to consult the Government of Venezuela, in order to arrange for the signature of the Final Act and the opening of the Convention for signature at Caracas in early September 1982.

Eleventh session of the Conference

2. As shown in detail in annex I to the present statement, the conference-servicing requirements of the proposed meetings indicated in subparagraphs 1 (a), (c) and (d) above are estimated at \$4,601,100 as follows:

	\$
Eleventh session of the Conference (8 March to 30 April 1982, New York)	3 781 000
Drafting Committee of the Conference (18 January to 26 February 1982, New York)	757 800
Informal consultations (3 to 5 March 1982, New York)	<u>62 300</u>
Total	<u><u>4 601 100</u></u>

3. In order to accommodate the proposed meetings, it is envisaged that certain other meetings already included in the draft calendar of conferences and meetings at Headquarters for 1982 approved by the Committee on Conferences will need to be rearranged. Thus, it is proposed to adjust the venue of meetings of the following bodies from New York to Geneva:

(a) Fifteenth session of the International Civil Service Commission (1 to 19 March 1982);

(b) Sixth meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance (10 to 19 March 1982);

(c) Twenty-fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (1 to 19 March 1982).

4. Since pre- and post-session documentation for the above three bodies will be processed at Headquarters, the financial consequences (differential cost) arising from the change of venue would be limited to the requirements for meeting services, in-session documentation and travel and daily subsistence allowance for substantive secretariat staff to be sent to Geneva. The requirements for travel and daily subsistence allowance for substantive secretariat staff is discussed in paragraph 9 below. As to the requirements for meeting services and in-session documentation in Geneva, a total of \$640,600 is estimated as shown in detail in annex II to this statement.

5. Inasmuch as the conference-servicing requirements indicated in paragraph 2 are estimated on a full-cost basis, additional appropriations are not requested at this time but will be considered in the context of the consolidated statement on conference-servicing requirements to be submitted towards the end of the thirty-sixth session, through which net additional resources in conference-servicing requirements will be requested in the light of the 1982 calendar of

conferences as finally approved by the General Assembly. As to the conference-servicing requirements indicated in paragraph 4, while the change of venue would lead to redistribution of conference workloads among the locations, resulting in redistribution of conference-servicing resources, the same consideration as discussed above for the requirements indicated in paragraph 2 is made, since whether net additional resources will be needed can only be considered in the light of the 1982 calendar of conferences as finally approved.

6. While no appropriations are requested at this time in respect of conference-servicing requirements referred to in paragraph 5 above, appropriations in an amount of \$220,300, a summary of which is shown in the following table, will be required in connexion with the holding of the eleventh session of the Conference, including the impact arising from the change in venue of the meetings indicated in paragraph 4 and discussed in paragraph 9:

	\$	\$
<u>(i) Section 2C - Conference secretariat</u>		
Temporary assistance (7 junior Professionals - a total of 77 work weeks)	60 400	
Temporary assistance (9 secretaries - a total of 99 work weeks)	27 000	
Overtime	5 500	
General operating expenses		
Rental of copying machine	3 900	
Maintenance of voting system	3 300	
Communications	2 200	
Hospitality	6 000	
Travel and subsistence of representatives of liberation movements (General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX))	<u>28 500</u>	136 800
<u>(ii) Section 27 - Department of Public Information</u>		
Temporary assistance (2 press officers (P-3), 1 typist (GS), 1 video cinema director (P-3), 1 production assistant (GS) and 4 contractual engineers for 8 weeks each)		55 200
<u>(iii) Impact of the change of venue</u>		
Section 28L - Fifteenth session of International Civil Service Commission (6 Professional and 2 General Service staff)	25 800	
Section 7 - Sixth meeting of Experts of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance (5 Professionals)	12 500	

C. Informal consultations (3 March-5 March 1982, New York)

Assumptions:

1. Interpretation services would be provided in four languages (Arabic, English, French and Spanish). Documentation services would be provided in five languages (Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

2. Four meetings would be held each day, with interpretation.

	<u>Total workload</u>	<u>Unit rate</u>	<u>Cost</u>	
			\$	\$
<u>Meeting servicing</u>				
Interpretation (A, E, F, S)	110 days	375/day	41 300	
Supporting staff				
Conference officers	17 days	39/day	700	
Documents distribution clerk	9 days	39/day	400	42 400
<u>In-session</u> (4,000 words, A, E, F, R, S)				
Translation	14 days	302/day	4 200	
Revision	5 days	315/day	1 600	
Typing	16 days	170/day	2 700	
Reproduction	50 000 page impressions	0.010/page impression	500	
Distribution	5 000 documents	0.050/document	300	9 300
<u>Office of General Services requirements</u>				
Sound engineering			3 200	
Security, messengers and information services			5 800	
General operating expenses			1 600	10 600
Grand total				<u>62 300</u>

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	\$	\$
Section 23 - Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (3 Professional and 2 General Service staff)	(10 000)	28 300
Total		<u>220 300</u>

7. The estimated requirements under temporary assistance for the Conference secretariat have taken into account a heavier workload expected in 1982 than in 1981.

8. Other requirements for the Conference secretariat and the Department of Public Information have been estimated on the same basis as that for the past sessions.

9. Requirements indicated in paragraph 6 (iii), mentioned also in paragraph 4, are requested in respect of travel and daily subsistence allowances for substantive staff to be sent to Geneva. There would be a reduction of \$10,000 under section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983, since it would not be necessary to send substantive staff to New York from Geneva, should the proposed change of venue of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination be approved by the General Assembly.

#### Final session of the Conference

10. Under operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to consult the Government of Venezuela in order to arrange for the signature of the Final Act and the opening of the Convention for signature at Caracas in early September 1982.

11. Since sufficient information does not exist regarding the organization of the final session, it is not possible at this time to estimate requirements for conference and other services. Should it be decided that the final session is to take place during 1982, the Secretary-General intends to seek authority from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the provision of the resolution to be adopted on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1982-1983, to enter into commitments in respect of those requirements which would need to be provided under the regular budget of the United Nations and are not covered by the provision of additional costs to be reimbursed by the Government of Venezuela under section I, paragraph 5, of General Assembly resolution 31/140.

#### Secretariat of the Conference

12. During 1982, the Conference would continue to be serviced by the Secretariat, in particular, by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. In this connexion, it will be recalled that provisions for that

Office have been approved on an annual basis. Accordingly, an appropriation of \$1,579,100 for the maintenance of the Conference secretariat is requested for the year 1982, as follows:

	\$
Temporary posts (including common staff costs - 1 USG, 1 D-2, 3 D-1, 4 P-5, 3 P-4, 2 P-3, 4 P-2/1, 3 G-5 and 9 GS)	1 292 400
Consultants	80 000
Overtime	6 000
Travel	50 000
External printing	150 700
Total	<u>1 579 100</u>

13. In connexion with the proposal for temporary posts, it is envisaged that the following three areas of activity will have to be reinforced within the secretariat of the Conference:

(a) Information on national legislation pertaining to the exercise by coastal States of their sovereignty, sovereign rights or jurisdiction in their territorial sea, their exclusive economic zone and their continental shelf;

(b) Information regarding existing global, regional, subregional or national programmes of technical co-operation on matters such as exploitation of living and non-living resources, marine scientific research, surveillance of extended maritime areas, protection of the marine environment, transit to and from the sea for landlocked States and navigation through straits of archipelagic waters;

(c) Compilation of information relevant to the future functions of the Preparatory Commission, in co-operation with the Ocean Economics and Technology Branch.

Consequently, it is proposed to reclassify one P-3 to P-4, one P-4 to P-5 and one P-5 to D-1 in order to enable the Special Representative to delegate broader functions, especially in the area indicated in subparagraph (b) above, to staff members where experience and performance warrant an increase in responsibility.

14. The estimated requirements under consultants (\$80,000) would make it possible for the Secretary-General to obtain highly technical expertise in connexion with the final draft of the Convention and studies on (a) the future functions of the Secretary-General under the draft Convention and on the needs of countries, especially developing countries, for information, advice and assistance under the new legal régime; and (b) on the potential impact of the Convention on the

economies of developing countries that are producers and exporters of the minerals to be extracted from the area, with special reference to the formula contained in article 151 of the draft Convention.

15. The resources under travel (\$50,000) are requested in connexion with consultations to be held with the specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations within the United Nations system concerning the studies to be undertaken by the Secretariat, as well as the consequences which would arise for the United Nations system as a whole in the event of the adoption of the draft Convention.

16. The estimated amount of \$150,700 under external printing relates to the printing of the official records of the tenth session (\$66,000), a multilingual text of the draft Convention (\$29,700) and the Convention in all six languages (\$55,000).

#### Public information activities

17. In order to promote the widest possible public awareness of the achievements of the Conference, various events relating to the Conference will be covered in such publications as the UN Chronicle, and feature articles will be provided to magazines. Issues relating to the Conference will be featured in the "World Chronicle" television series, as well as in the weekly quarter-hour radio programmes. The multicoloured student map produced annually and focusing on an outstanding issue will be devoted in 1982 to the Conference. These activities will be undertaken by the Department of Public Information as part of its regular programme.

18. In respect of the achievements of the Conference, a press kit will be assembled which will contain the following:

- (a) A wallsheet, to illustrate at a glance the multidimensional aspects of the Convention;
- (b) Fact sheets, to explain at a glance the issues involved in the Convention;
- (c) A booklet, to illustrate the evolution of the Conference, culminating in the adoption of the Convention;
- (d) Briefing papers, aimed at presenting an over-all picture of the Conference and the Convention.

19. The press kit will be produced in an edition of 10,000 except for the booklet, of which there will be a printing of 220,000 copies for greater dissemination. The total cost of the kit is estimated at \$121,100, as follows: folders, \$4,500; wallsheet, \$11,000; fact sheets, \$17,600; and booklet, \$88,000.

20. Six work months of temporary assistance at the P-3 level are required in order to prepare and assemble information for the press kit, in particular, to write the booklet. The cost of such assistance is estimated at \$20,300.

21. A documentary film will be produced to feature and explain the main points that the Conference will have agreed upon. This film will be undertaken as part of the regular programme of the Department of Public Information, and every effort will be made to cover its cost under existing appropriations.

22. In addition, it is proposed to hold a two-day journalists' encounter immediately preceding the final session of the Conference, in order to promote a deeper understanding of the issues relating to the Convention. The encounter would bring together 50 persons - parliamentarians, opinion leaders and journalists. The cost of the encounter is estimated at \$81,300 as follows: travel of participants, \$73,800; contractual services, \$3,100; and miscellaneous services, \$4,400.

23. The total public information cost related to the last stage of the work of the Conference is estimated at \$222,700. No appropriation is requested at this time for the encounter (\$81,300), pending determination of the timing of the final session of the Conference. Should the final session take place in 1982, the Secretary-General intends to seek authority from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the provisions of General Assembly resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1982-1983, to enter into commitments in respect of the encounter described above. As regards the press kit and related temporary assistance, an appropriation of \$141,400 is required under section 27.

#### Summary

24. In summary, an additional appropriation of \$1,940,800 is requested at this time in respect of the above requirements as follows:

Eleventh session of the Conference	\$	
Section 2C	136 800	
Section 27	55 200	
Section 28L	25 800	
Section 7	12 500	
Section 23	(10 000)	
	<u>220 300</u>	
Final session of the Conference	-	a/
Secretariat of the Conference - section 2C	1 579 100	
Public Information activities - section 27	141 400	b/
Staff assessment - section 31	383 900	
Staff assessment - income section 1	(383 900)	
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>1 940 800</u></u>	

a/ See paragraph 11 above.

b/ See paragraph 23 above.

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Annex I

ESTIMATED COSTS OF CONFERENCE SERVICING FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS  
 CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

A. Eleventh session (8 March-30 April 1982, New York)

Assumptions:

1. Interpretation and documentation services, including summary records, would be provided in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

2. Eight meetings would be held each day, with interpretation for the first three weeks, and three meetings, including one night meeting, would be held each day, with interpretation for the remaining five weeks.

3. Two summary records would be provided each day for the first three weeks and three each day for the remaining five weeks.

	<u>Total workload</u>	<u>Unit rate</u>	<u>Cost</u>	
			\$	\$
<u>Pre-session</u>				
(40 000 words, A, C, E, F, R, S)				
Translation	170 days	302/day	51 300	
Revision	57 days	315/day	18 000	
Typing	187 days	170/day	31 800	
Reproduction	670 000 page impressions	0.010/page impression	6 700	
Distribution	6 700 documents	0.050/document	<u>300</u>	108 100

	<u>Total workload</u>	<u>Unit rate</u>	<u>Cost</u>	
			\$	\$
<b><u>Meeting services</u></b>				
Interpretation (A, C, E, F, R, S)	2 730 days	375/day	1 023 800	
<b>Supporting staff</b>				
Conference officers	560 days	39/day	21 800	
Documents distribution clerks	168 days	39/day	<u>6 600</u>	1 052 200
<b><u>In-session</u></b>				
(320,000 words, A, C, E, F, R, S)				
Translation	1 358 days	302/day	410 100	
Revision	453 days	315/day	142 700	
Typing	1 494 days	170/day	254 000	
Reproduction	4 480 000 page impressions	0.010/page impression	44 800	
Distribution	44 800 documents	0.050/document	<u>2 200</u>	
<b>Other supporting staff</b>				
Mineograph operators	448 days	39/day	17 500	
Documents control clerk	56 days	39/day	2 200	
Clerk labourers	448 days	39/day	<u>17 500</u>	891 000

	<u>Total workload</u>	<u>Unit rate</u>	<u>Cost</u>	
			\$	\$
<u>Post-session</u> (120 000 words, A, C, E, F, R, S)				
Translation	510 days	302/day	154 000	
Revision	170 days	315/day	53 600	
Typing	561 days	170/day	95 400	
Reproduction	2 010 000 page impressions	0.010/page impression	20 100	
Distribution	20 100 documents	0.050/document	<u>1 000</u>	324 100
<u>Summary records</u> (105 meetings, A, C, E, F, R, S)				
Précis-writing	441 days	302/day	133 200	
Translation	1 470 days	302/day	443 900	
Revision	441 days	315/day	138 900	
Typing	2 646 days	170/day	449 800	
Reproduction	7 644 000 page impressions	0.010/page impression	76 400	
Distribution	588 000 documents	0.050/document	<u>29 400</u>	1 271 600
<u>Office of General Services requirements</u>				
Sound engineering			45 900	
Security, messengers and information services			67 200	
General operating expenses			<u>20 900</u>	<u>134 000</u>
Grand total				<u><u>3 781 000</u></u>

B. Drafting Committee (18 January-26 February 1982, New York)

Assumptions:

1. Interpretation and in-session documentation services would be provided in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).
2. Two meetings would be held each day, with interpretation.

	<u>Total workload</u>	<u>Unit rate</u>	<u>Cost</u>	
			\$	\$
<u>Meeting servicing</u>				
Interpretation (A, C, E, F, R, S)	840 days	375/day	315 000	
Supporting staff				
Conference officers	252 days	39/day	9 800	
Documents distribution clerks	252 days	39/day	<u>9 800</u>	334 600
<u>In-session</u>				
(120,000 words, A, C, E, F, R, S)				
Translation	510 days	302/day	154 000	
Revision	170 days	315/day	53 600	
Typing	561 days	170/day	95 400	
Reproduction	1 680 000 page impressions	0.010/page impression	16 800	
Distribution	16 800 documents	0.050/document	<u>800</u>	320 600
<u>Office of General Services requirements</u>				
Sound engineering			70 200	
General operating expenses			<u>32 400</u>	<u>102 600</u>
Grand total				<u><u>757 800</u></u>

Annex II

ESTIMATED COSTS OF CONFERENCE SERVICING ARISING FROM THE PROPOSED  
CHANGE OF VENUE FROM NEW YORK TO GENEVA

	<u>Meeting services</u>	<u>In-session documentation</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fifteenth session of the International Civil Service Commission	135 800	139 300	275 100
Sixth meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme on Public Administration and Finance	55 300	45 600	100 900
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	<u>66 700</u>	<u>197 900</u>	<u>264 600</u>
Total	<u>257 800</u>	<u>382 800</u>	<u>640 600</u>

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