



General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/C.5/36/83  
4 December 1981

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

Thirty-sixth session  
FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 100 and 31

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution  
contained in document A/36/L.32

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 operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 of the draft resolution contained in document A/36/L.32 dated 27 November 1981, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General:

"2. To ensure that the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights continues to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B and paragraph 2(b) of resolution 34/65 D, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

"3. To provide the Special Unit with the necessary additional resources to accomplish its tasks and to expand its work programme inter alia, through:

"(a) The organization annually of a seminar in North America in addition to the regional seminars;

"(b) More widespread dissemination of its publications in all the official languages;

"(c) Translation of those publications into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations;

...

"5. To ensure the continued co-operation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights to perform its tasks, inter alia, through the production, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, of a film on Palestinian rights and through the provision of copies of the photographic exhibit on Palestinian rights installed at United Nations headquarters and of other visual material for use by the Special Unit and United Nations information centres."

2. With regard to the request in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution that the Special Unit continue to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B and paragraph 2(b) of resolution 34/65 D, it is proposed to increase the capability of the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights by the addition of one temporary post each at the P-3 and G-4 levels, at a cost of \$77,600 for the biennium 1982-1983, covering salaries and common staff costs. The Political Affairs Officer would assist the Secretary of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the organization of meetings, particularly of its Working Groups, for which considerable documentation will be required. This officer would also act as secretary of the working groups and be responsible for the drafting of reports and letters for the Chairman of the Committee. A more detailed description of functions of the Professional post is contained in annex I of the present document.

3. Operative paragraph 3(a) of the draft resolution calls for the organization of six regional seminars during the biennium 1982-1983, two of which would be held in North America. With regard to the seminars, the following assumptions can be made at this time:

- (a) The seminars are not expected to be hosted by Governments;
- (b) Three seminars will be held in 1982 in North America, Africa and Europe;
- (c) Three seminars will be held in 1983 in North America, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America;
- (d) The duration of each seminar is planned for five days, permitting 10 meetings;
- (e) It is expected that there will be 18 to 20 experts, at each seminar, and up to 100 participants;
- (f) Substantive servicing of each seminar will be provided by two Professionals from the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights assisted by two General Service staff members. Five members of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People would attend each seminar in their official capacity. In addition, an administrative finance officer would service each seminar;
- (g) Conference servicing requirements are based on provision of facilities in two languages (E, F) for pre-session and in-session documentation and five

languages (A, E, F, R, S) for post-session documentation. The seminars in Europe, Africa, and Asia and the Pacific will be serviced by staff of the United Nations Office at Geneva, and the seminars in North America and Latin America will be serviced by Headquarters staff. It is estimated that for each seminar, pre-session documentation will be 500 pages, in-session documentation will be 100 pages and post-session documentation will be 600 pages. In all cases pre- and post-session documentation will be handled at Headquarters.

4. Because the seminars are not expected to be held at established United Nations offices or seats of regional commissions, and since they are not expected to be hosted by Governments, the financial implications of holding such seminars will give rise to additional costs for items such as the rental of conference premises, office space, and interpretation equipment, office equipment and supplies, local transportation and other ancillary services, including certain local staff. An evaluation of the availability and cost of these requirements in a locale can only be made following the standard planning mission undertaken by the Secretariat in the case of each seminar. The planning missions would be composed of three or four staff members representing the substantive office, the Office of General Services and the Department of Conference Services for a period of approximately five days in order to evaluate the facilities available for a seminar of this type. It is estimated that the costs of three such missions in 1982 would amount to \$22,400. Experience and information gained in 1982 regarding costs will be reflected in the first performance report for the biennium 1982-1983 and will provide the basis for the request to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session for the resources for the three planning missions and seminars to be held in 1983.

5. Table I, summarizing the costs which can be anticipated at this time, includes a global figure of \$40,000 for each seminar for general operating expenses. This is expected to cover such items as those indicated in paragraph 4 above as well as communications, freight charges and hospitality, and represents as closely as possible the actual cost experience to date. In addition, because it may be expected that at least one of the three seminars held in 1982 would require modification of premises and installation of equipment in order to provide complete interpretation facilities, an amount of \$50,000 is included for the purpose. Tables 2 and 3 show conference-servicing requirements in detail.

6. In view of the 50-per-cent increase in 1982-1983 in the number of seminars over those in 1980-1981 and the consequent work load, it is envisaged that an additional temporary post at the P-3 level supported by a temporary General Service post at the G-4 level would be required by the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights to assist in the organization of the seminars, at a cost of \$77,600 covering salaries and common staff costs for the biennium 1982-1983. The description of the functions of this second political affairs officer is contained in annex I of the present document.

7. Operative paragraph 3 (b) requests more widespread dissemination of the Unit's publications in all official languages. In order to permit an annual allocation of approximately \$300 to each of the information centres for increased local distribution of information materials related to the question of Palestine an appropriation of approximately \$37,200 for the biennium 1982-1983 would be required for the Department of Public Information.

Table 1

1982 REGIONAL SEMINARS ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

	<u>North America</u> \$	<u>Europe</u> \$	<u>Africa</u> \$	<u>Total</u> \$
Travel of staff on planning mission	4 400	8 000	10 000	22 400
Travel of experts	27 000	41 000	42 000	110 000
Travel of Committee Members	9 000	11 200	13 500	33 700
Travel of substantive staff	8 500	11 000	14 000	33 500
<b>Total</b>	<u>48 900</u>	<u>71 200</u>	<u>79 500</u>	<u>199 600</u>
General operating expenses (including conference premises, air freight, rental of interpretation, office and transportation equipment, communications and hospitality)	40 000	40 000	40 000	120 000
Miscellaneous supplies and services (including local support staff)	2 500	2 500	2 500	7 500
Exceptional costs such as installation of sound engineering facilities, alteration of premises (one time cost)	<u>50 000</u>	<u>50 000</u>	<u>50 000</u>	50 000 <sup>a/</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<u>42 500</u>	<u>42 500</u>	<u>42 500</u>	<u>177 500</u>
Conference services <sup>b/</sup>				
- standard requirements	720 200	706 200	714 000	2 140 400
- additional requirements for travel and subsistence	40 100	35 200	59 700	135 000
- general temporary assistance	3 600	3 600	3 600	10 800
<b>Total</b>	<u>763 900</u>	<u>745 000</u>	<u>777 300</u>	<u>2 286 200</u>
<b>Grand total</b>	<u>855 300</u>	<u>858 700</u>	<u>899 300</u>	<u>2 663 300</u> <sup>a/</sup>

<sup>a/</sup> \$50,000 is included as a cost for one of the seminars.

<sup>b/</sup> Tables 2 and 3 show requirements for conference services in detail.

Table 2

CONFERENCE-SERVICING REQUIREMENTS FOR 1982 REGIONAL SEMINARS  
 SERVICED BY HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

	<u>Interpret.</u>	<u>Transl.</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Typing</u>	<u>Conf. and distrib. officers</u>	<u>Reprod. and distrib.</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Standard requirements</u>							
Pre-session documentation (500 pages, E, F)	-	51 300	17 800	43 300	-	29 000	141 400
Meetings services (10 meetings - E, F)	15 200	-	-	-	800	-	16 000
In-session documentation (100 pages, E, F)	-	10 300	3 600	8 700	-	5 000	27 600
Post-session documentation (600 pages, A, E, F, R, S)	-	246 000	85 500	155 700	-	48 000	535 200
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 200</b>	<b>307 600</b>	<b>106 900</b>	<b>207 700</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>82 000</b>	<b>720 200</b>
<u>Additional requirements for travel and subsistence</u>							
Meeting servicing	7 000	-	-	-	4 900	-	11 900
In-session documentation	-	9 400	4 700	9 400	-	4 700	28 200
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 000</b>	<b>9 400</b>	<b>4 700</b>	<b>9 400</b>	<b>4 900</b>	<b>4 700</b>	<b>40 100</b>
<u>Locally recruited staff</u>							
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>22 200</b>	<b>317 000</b>	<b>111 600</b>	<b>217 500</b>	<b>6 100</b>	<b>89 500</b>	<b>763 900</b>

Table 3

CONFERENCE-SERVICING REQUIREMENTS FOR 1982 REGIONAL SEMINARS  
 SERVICED FROM UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA  
 (E = Europe; A = Africa)

	<u>Interpret.</u>	<u>Transl.</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Typing</u>	<u>Conf. and distrib. officers</u>	<u>Reprod. and distrib.</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Standard requirements.</u>							
Pre-session documentation <u>a/</u> (500 pages, E, F)	(E) - (A) -	51 300 51 300	17 800 17 800	43 300 43 300	- -	29 000 29 000	141 400 141 400
Meeting services	(E) 10 000 (A) 12 800	- -	- -	- -	1 700 1 700	- -	11 700 14 500
In-session documentation (100 pages, E, F)	(E) - (A) -	7 900 10 200	4 400 5 700	4 500 5 800	- -	1 100 1 200	17 900 22 900
Post-session documentation <u>a/</u> (600 pages, A, E, F, R, S)	(E) - (A) -	246 000 246 000	85 500 85 500	155 700 155 700	- -	48 000 48 000	535 200 535 200
Total	22 800	612 700	216 700	408 300	3 400	156 300	1 420 200
<u>Additional requirements for travel and subsistence</u>							
Meeting servicing	(E) 7 500 (A) 13 200	- -	- -	- -	5 200 7 100	- -	12 700 20 300
In-session documentation	(E) - (A) -	5 000 8 800	2 500 4 400	10 000 17 500	- -	5 000 8 700	22 500 39 400
Total	20 700	13 800	6 900	27 500	12 700	13 700	94 900
<u>Locally recruited staff</u>	-	-	-	800	800	5 600	7 200
Grand total	43 500	626 500	223 600	436 600	16 500	175 600	1 522 300 <u>b/</u>

a/ Documentation provided at Headquarters, New York.

b/ Of the total 1 522 300, \$745 000 applies to European seminars, \$777 300 to African seminars.

8. Operative paragraph 3 (c) requests that resources be provided for the translation of publications into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations. It is estimated that funds in the amount of \$17,000 would be required for the biennium 1982-1983 to translate three pamphlets per year into three non-official languages, the choice of which is still to be determined. Costs associated with reproduction and distribution would be absorbed.

9. Operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution would require resources for the Department of Public Information to produce a film on Palestinian rights and to provide copies of the photographic exhibit on Palestinian rights installed at United Nations Headquarters and of other visual material for use by the Special Unit on Palestinian Rights and United Nations information centres.

10. The costs of the preparation of such a film and photographic exhibit on the Palestinian People's rights are estimated as follows:

	\$	\$
<u>Cost of production for an original 30-minute documentary film in 16 mm color</u>	120 000	
Three additional official language adaptations at \$5,000 each		15 000
Cost of 150 prints at \$100 each	<u>15 000</u>	150 000
<u>Cost of 60 copies of the photographic exhibit now installed at United Nations Headquarters</u>		
Redesign and layout of English, French and Spanish versions of the Palestine exhibit	5 000	
Typesetting for the English, French, and Spanish versions	5 000	
Production of 60 sets of the DPI Palestine Exhibit in English, French and Spanish versions (basic set consists of seven panels)	40 000	
Air freight to United Nations information centres (average cost \$150 per set)	<u>9 000</u>	<u>59 000</u>
		<u>209 000</u>

11. Of the estimated costs indicated above, \$2,140,400 relate to standard requirements for conference servicing in 1982 and are based on full cost at 1962 rates. Towards the close of the present session of the General Assembly, the extent to which this cost can be absorbed within existing resources will be indicated in the consolidated statement of conference servicing requirements to be submitted at that time. Conference-servicing costs in respect of the seminars to be held in 1983 will be considered within the totality of conference-servicing requirements to be dealt with by the General Assembly at the thirty-seventh session.

12. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, additional appropriations of \$998,000 would be required for the sections indicated under the 1982-1983 proposed programme budget:

	<u>Section 1</u>	<u>Section 27</u>	<u>Section 28</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>Temporary posts</u>				
2 P-3 and 2 G-4 <u>a/</u>	155 200	-	56 700	211 900
<u>Seminars</u>				
Travel	199 600	-	-	199 600
Operating expenses	177 500	-	-	177 500
Additional conference-servicing requirements	162 800	-	-	162 800
<u>Public Information</u>				
Information centres <u>c/</u>	-	37 200	-	37 200
Film and exhibit <u>d/</u>	-	209 000	-	209 000
Total	<u>695 100</u>	<u>246 200</u>	<u>56 000</u>	<u>998 000</u>

a/ See paras. 2 and 6 above.

b/ See table 1 above.

c/ See para. 7 above.

d/ See para. 10 above.



Annex

JOB DESCRIPTIONS OF REQUESTED NEW POSTS FOR THE SPECIAL UNIT  
ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

1. Political Affairs Officer (P-3)

To work under the supervision of the Secretary of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

To assist in making arrangements for meetings of the Committee; draft letters for the Chairman of the Committee; prepare reports of the new working groups which the Committee wishes to establish; undertake other responsibilities assigned to the Special Unit, as follows:

(a) Service working groups of the Committee (20 meetings per year):

Prepare documentation  
Arrange meeting services  
Act as secretary of working groups  
Draft report of working groups  
Draft letters for the Chairman

(b) Assist Secretary of Committee when necessary

(c) Assist in the preparations for the Commemoration of Solidarity Day

(d) Undertake other responsibilities assigned to the Special Unit.

2. Political Affairs Officer (P-3)

To work under the supervision of the Chief of the Special Unit

To assist in the organization of regional seminars and the commemoration of Solidarity Day, and carry out other duties that may be assigned, as follows:

(a) Assist in the organization of six seminars in the biennium:

Identify experts who would present papers at the seminars;  
Read and edit in advance the papers to be presented at the seminars;  
Make the logistical arrangements for the holding of seminars  
and the return of material after the seminars;

Supervise the use of visual materials at the seminars;

Prepare the papers presented for publication;

Identify topics to be discussed at seminars;

- (b) Assist in the organization of International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, 29 November, each year:

Identify NGOs to be invited to Commemoration meeting;

Prepare invitations to participants;

Assist the Committee in the organization of an exhibition;

Arrange for the screening of films;

- (e) Undertake other duties as required.

-----