



General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 April 2019

Original: English

Seventy-fourth session

Item 137 of the preliminary list**

Proposed programme budget for 2020

Proposed programme budget for 2020

Part III

International justice and law

Section 7

International Court of Justice

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Foreword	3
Overall orientation	4
A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018***	7
B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020****	11
Annexes	
I. Organizational structure and post distribution for 2020	20
II. Summary of proposed changes in established and temporary posts, by component and subprogramme	21

* Reissued for technical reasons on 21 May 2019.

** [A/74/50](#).

*** The part consisting of the proposed programme plan for 2020 is submitted for consideration of the General Assembly in accordance with the established budgetary procedures and practices reaffirmed in paragraph 13 of resolution [72/266 A](#).

**** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly.





Foreword

The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It is the only court whose members are elected by both the General Assembly and the Security Council. Its activities are governed by the Charter of the United Nations and by its Statute, which forms an integral part of the Charter.

The Court is seized of disputes between States from all regions of the world and it may examine any problem of international law. (It has established in this regard a considerable body of jurisprudence, which is an essential point of reference in international relations, ranging from conditions for the use of force to territorial and maritime delimitations, and covering a whole series of questions concerning cooperative relations between States.) As confirmed by its ever-expanding workload in recent decades, the Court has proved itself capable of responding to the aspirations of States for a universal, independent and impartial judicial forum, permanently available to settle their disputes in accordance with international law. Furthermore, by giving advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies, the Court assists them in the exercise of their functions and fulfils an essential role for the proper functioning of the United Nations system and the development of international law.

Over the past 20 years, the Court's workload has grown considerably. This is due not only to the high number of cases pending before it, but also to the procedural and substantive complexity of those cases. While the overall number of cases on the Court's list has been relatively stable in recent years – there are currently 16 cases pending before the Court – the constant ebb and flow of new and settled proceedings reflects a great dynamism on the part of the institution.

In his speech to the General Assembly on 25 October 2018, the President of the Court, Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, observed the following:

The Court has made every endeavour to fulfil the noble mission entrusted to it in terms of the advancement of international justice and the peaceful settlement of disputes between States. It has continued to focus its attention on many complex areas of international law raised by the multifaceted disputes brought before it. Often, these thorny legal issues lie at the heart of the international community's current concerns. The Court is acutely aware in this connection that, with its rulings, it has a responsibility to serve all Member States by safeguarding respect for the rule of law in international relations.

I feel I must emphasize that, in view of its pre-eminent role and its intense and fruitful activity, the Court constitutes, without doubt, an extremely cost-effective means of settling disputes peacefully.

(Signed) Philippe **Couvreur**
Registrar

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 7.1 The International Court of Justice is responsible for settling, in accordance with international law, legal disputes that are submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by bodies authorized to do so under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations. It is composed of 15 judges elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council and is one of six principal organs of the United Nations and the principal judicial organ of the Organization. It functions in accordance with its Statute, which is an integral part of the Charter. All 193 States Members of the United Nations are parties to the Statute, and 73 of them have recognized the Court's jurisdiction as compulsory, in line with article 36, paragraph 2, of its Statute. In addition, more than 300 bilateral and multilateral treaties grant the Court compulsory jurisdiction in the resolution of various types of disputes. States that are not members of the United Nations may become parties to the Statute on conditions to be determined in each case by the Assembly upon the recommendation of the Council. The Court may also be open to States not parties to its Statute, subject to the conditions laid down by the Council and currently set out in its resolution 9 (1946), adopted on 15 October 1946. Pursuant to this resolution, on 4 July 2018, the State of Palestine deposited a declaration with the Registry of the Court, whereby it declared that it accepted with immediate effect the competence of the Court for the settlement of all disputes that could arise or that had already arisen covered under article I of the Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes. The Court submits annual reports to the Assembly, the most recent of which is contained in document [A/73/4](#). Under the terms of regulation 2.14 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the programme budget proposals of the Court are prepared by the Court, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and are submitted to the Assembly by the Secretary-General, together with such observations as he or she may deem desirable.

Alignment with the Charter of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals

- 7.2 The objective of the Court, as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, is aligned with the Organization's purpose to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of peace, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purposes stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter are embodied by the Sustainable Development Goals. The objective, and therefore the deliverables, is aligned with one Sustainable Development Goal.

Recent developments

- 7.3 During the period 2014–2017, the Court disposed of eight cases brought before it (with one decided on the merits but remaining pending on compensation), and one case was discontinued. Over the same period, 13 new contentious cases and 1 request for an advisory opinion were filed with the Court. The Court also received three requests for the indication of provisional measures. Preliminary objections to jurisdiction and/or admissibility were raised in nine cases. Counter-claims were filed in one case. Such incidental proceedings, often characterized as “cases within the cases”, generate a similar workload for the Court as that flowing from the examination of a case on the merits. This additional workload is not reflected in the number of cases pending before the Court at any given time. The rise in the number of incidental proceedings and the range of measures used for the

gathering of evidence, including increasing recourse to experts in cases involving highly technical and scientific questions, are noteworthy developments with significant implications for the sound administration of international justice and the fulfilment of the mandate conferred on the Court under the Charter.

- 7.4 In 2018, the Court disposed of four cases and delivered one judgment on the preliminary objections raised in another case; two cases were discontinued. During the same period, six new cases were filed with the Court, preliminary objections were raised in one case and, in two cases, requests were made for the indication of provisional measures. Counter-claims were filed in one case. The Court held public hearings on one request for an advisory opinion and on the merits or on incidental proceedings in four contentious cases. As at 31 December 2018, 17 cases were pending before the Court (16 contentious cases and 1 request for an advisory opinion). At the beginning of 2019, the Court delivered a judgment on the preliminary objections raised in one contentious case and gave an advisory opinion. For 2019, the Court has set tentative dates for hearings in six cases.
- 7.5 The constant ebb and flow of new and settled proceedings reflects a great dynamism on the part of the institution, is a measure of its ability to adapt and bears testament to the reforms that have been carried out constantly over the years to increase the efficiency of its working methods. While the Court now almost always deliberates in two or three cases simultaneously, this does not prevent it from reacting quickly, notwithstanding the limited amount of time available, to the urgent and almost always unpredictable requests brought before it on a regular basis. (For example, in May 2017, within a few days of the filing of the application instituting proceedings, the Court held public hearings and issued an order indicating provisional measures in a case brought by India against Pakistan).

Strategy and external factors for 2020

- 7.6 The activities of the Court are not covered in the programme plan and performance information for 2020. The Court notes that, although it is inherently impossible to forecast its main workload indicators (e.g., the number of cases that will be pending before the Court in 2020 and the number of new proceedings that will be instituted, including incidental proceedings in pending cases), it has made every effort to assess its requirements for 2020 against the background of the Court's workload for the current and previous bienniums.
- 7.7 The Court has no control over the volume of its activities, which remain in large part unpredictable. The Court must at all times be able to exercise the functions entrusted to it if the terms and intent of the Charter are to be respected. New cases are brought before the Court by States, and advisory opinions are requested of the Court by authorized organs of the United Nations and specialized agencies, all of whom may seize the Court at any time, without prior notice. When a case is pending before the Court, it is not possible to anticipate whether and when incidental proceedings (requests for provisional measures, preliminary objections, counter-claims and requests to intervene) may be instituted. Historically, there have been significant variations in the number of new proceedings commenced in a given year, although in recent times there has been an upward trend in the Court's caseload. This upward trend continues in 2019 and is also expected to continue in 2020. The Court now routinely considers two to three cases simultaneously. The workload represented by each decision of the Court is particularly high. In principle, the parties (which are sovereign States) to cases brought before the Court each submit one set of written pleadings to the Court: the Memorial and the Counter-Memorial. The Court may authorize them to submit a further set of pleadings, namely, the Reply and the Rejoinder; it may also itself require these pleadings, if it considers this necessary. In practice, these additional pleadings are almost always submitted. The pleadings are tending to become increasingly voluminous, notwithstanding the Court's appeals to the parties. Hearings can also be long and complex, depending on the nature of the case. In cases involving difficult factual issues (e.g., of a highly technical character), the presentation of witnesses and experts will be likely. The Court then does everything in its power to deliver a judgment within as short a time as possible, allowing for the complexity of the case. The entire proceedings must be

conducted simultaneously in both of the Court's official languages, both at the written and oral stages and during deliberations.

- 7.8 In deciding the cases submitted to it, the Court renders decisions that serve as guidelines for avoiding and resolving disputes that may subsequently arise between other States. In addition, in giving advisory opinions in response to the requests of duly authorized organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations, the Court contributes to the proper functioning of the United Nations system, as well as to preventive diplomacy and the development of international law.
- 7.9 Given that the Court is both a judicial body and an international institution that is administratively independent from the Secretariat, its Registry must take on the dual role of an *auxiliaire de la justice* and an international secretariat. The Registry will continue to be guided by the Statute, the Rules of the Court and the Instructions for the Registry. The Registry provides legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical support for the Court. It is responsible for administrative, conference, computerization, archival, distribution and documentary and library services, and acts as the regular channel for communications to and from the Court. Pursuant to article 21, paragraph 2, of the Statute and article 22 of the Rules of the Court, the Registrar is elected by the Court for a term of seven years and may be re-elected. In accordance with article 21, paragraph 2, of the Statute, the staff of the Registry are appointed by the Court. Article 23 of the Rules of the Court provides for the election of a Deputy-Registrar following the same procedure as that of the election of the Registrar. The Court adopts its own staff regulations.
- 7.10 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2020 is based on the following planning assumption: that the Court's judicial activities in 2020 will involve a similar level of work as in 2019.
- 7.11 With regard to cooperation with other United Nations partners, the Registry of the Court cooperates closely with, among others, the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, the Office of Legal Affairs and the International Criminal Court in The Hague. In 2018, the Residual Mechanism provided, on a cost-reimbursable basis, additional security during hearings and public proceedings when required, as well as the services of a graphic designer. Similarly, the International Criminal Court provided, also on a cost-reimbursable basis, the assistance of language typists and proofreaders during hearings of the International Court of Justice. Furthermore, the International Court of Justice provided administrative assistance to the Office of Legal Affairs during its annual six-week fellowship programme on public international law, held at the Peace Palace in The Hague.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018



Registry

1. Objective

- 7.12 The objective, to which the Registry of the Court contributes, is to ensure that the needs of the Court are met in an efficient and effective manner for the sound administration of international justice and the fulfilment by the Court of its mandate under the Charter.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 7.13 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peace and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to promote the rule of law.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

The International Court of Justice dealt with a number of complex and diverse cases, continuing its mission as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations

In 2018, the Court experienced a particularly high level of activity. It delivered four judgments, two orders on requests for the indication of provisional measures and a number of other orders directing the proceedings in the cases pending before it. As at 31 December 2018, there were 17 cases pending before the Court (16 contentious cases and 1 request for an advisory opinion). A total of 23 cases were pending before the Court during the course of 2018.

Of the four judgments delivered by the Court in 2018, one concerned the question of the compensation owed by Nicaragua to Costa Rica in the case of *Certain Activities carried out by Nicaragua in the Border Area (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)*, one concerned both a maritime delimitation dispute (in two distinct maritime areas) and a land boundary dispute (the joined cases of *Maritime Delimitation in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)* and *Land Boundary in the Northern Part of Isla Portillos (Costa Rica v. Nicaragua)*), and one was rendered on the merits in the case concerning *Obligation to Negotiate Access to the Pacific Ocean (Bolivia v. Chile)*. A fourth judgment was rendered by the Court on the preliminary objections raised by France in the case concerning *Immunities and Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)*.

During the same period, the Court held public hearings on one request for an advisory opinion and on the merits or on incidental proceedings in four contentious cases. In addition to the hearings held on the merits in the case concerning *Obligation to Negotiate Access to the Pacific Ocean (Bolivia v. Chile)*, the Court held hearings on the requests for the indication of provisional measures submitted by Qatar in the case concerning *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Qatar v. United Arab Emirates)* and by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the case concerning *Alleged violations of the 1955 Treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)*. The Court also held hearings on the preliminary objections raised by the United States of America in the case concerning *Certain Iranian Assets (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)*. Lastly, the Court held public hearings on the request made by the General Assembly for an advisory opinion in respect of the *Legal Consequences of the Separation of the*

Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965, during which 22 States and the African Union presented oral statements. This request had also required the Court to hold written proceedings, earlier in 2018, which involved a great number of participants: the Court received written statements from 31 States and the African Union, and written comments from 10 States and the African Union.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is that the needs of the Court were met in an effective and efficient manner in 2018.

Evidence of the result includes the provision by the Registry to the Court of case-related documents enabling the Court to carry out all its judicial activities in 2018.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 7.14 A planned result for 2018, which is increased public awareness and understanding of the work of the Court, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the increased number of visits to the Court’s website (5.7 million actual visits in 2018 against a biennial target of 5.3 million). This increased number of visits is the result of substantial enhancements offered by the new website launched by the Court in 2017, in particular with regard to searchability, mobile device compatibility, navigation and readability, and additional key resources made available not only in the two official languages of the Court, but also in the four other official languages of the United Nations.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Continuation of the Court’s sustained level of activity

In 2018, the Registry of the Court ensured that the needs of the Court were met with regard to the cases identified above.

Challenge and response

The challenge was to ensure that the Court’s needs were met while the Court experienced a high level of activity. In response, for 2020, while specific needs are, in general, unforeseeable, the Registry will continue to respond to the needs of the Court, including by providing legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical support.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is that the needs of the Court are met in 2020 in an efficient and effective manner for the sound administration of international justice and the fulfilment by the Court of its mandate under the Charter.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include, among other things, the timely provision by the Registry to the Court of substantive, conference and secretariat, and documentation services, in cases pending before the Court.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

2018	2019	2020
Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases	Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases	Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

7.15 Table 7.1 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 7.1
Deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 planned	2018 actual	2019 planned	2020 planned
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process, expert bodies and the judicial process				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1	1	1	1
Judicial documentation (number of judgments, advisory opinions and orders)	Unforeseeable ^a	20	Unforeseeable ^a	Unforeseeable ^a
Substantive services for judicial proceedings (number of documents)	1 270	1 647	1 685	1 685
Conference and secretariat services for judicial proceedings (number of three-hour sittings)	112	151	133	133
Documentation services for judicial proceedings (thousands of words)	21 060	29 792	26 460	26 460
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Publications (number of publications)	20	20	33	33
Non-quantified deliverables				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials				
External and media relations				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				

^a It is inherently impossible to forecast the number of cases that will be pending before the Court and the number of new proceedings that will be instituted, including incidental proceedings in pending cases.

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variances between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 7.16 The variance in the substantive services for judicial proceedings was driven by the preparation of documents (e.g., minutes of private meetings of the Court, case-related letters and distributions prepared, memorandums and speeches), owing to the increased workload of the Court in 2018.
- 7.17 The variance in the conference and secretariat services for judicial proceedings was driven by the interpretation at private meetings and public hearings of the Court, owing to the increased workload of the Court in 2018.
- 7.18 The variance in the documentation services for judicial proceedings was driven mainly by the text processing (editing and proofreading) of documents directly related to the Court's judicial activities, owing to the increased workload of the Court in 2018.

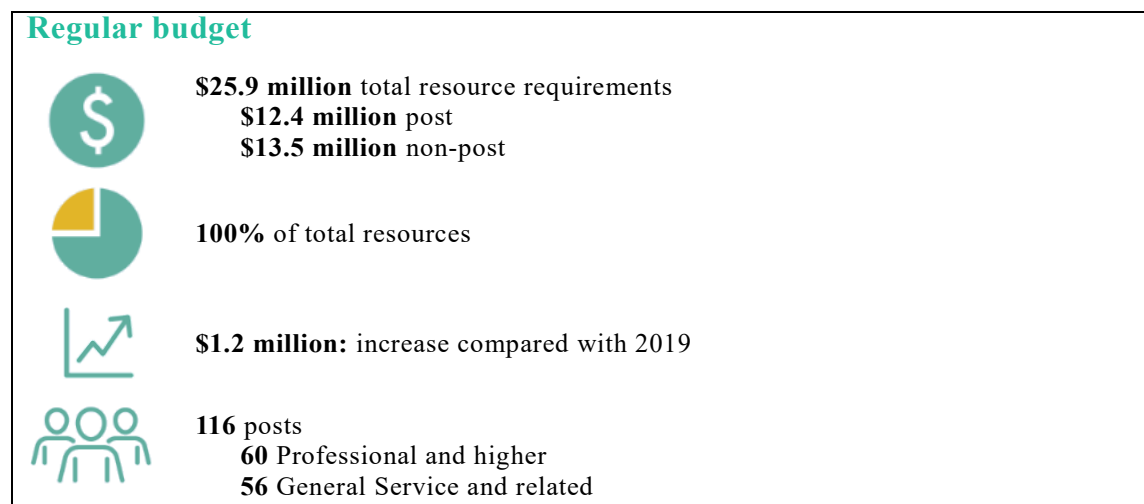
B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020

Overview

- 7.19 The total resource requirements for 2020, under the regular budget, are reflected in figure 7.I and table 7.2.

Figure 7.I

2020 in numbers



Note: Estimates before recosting.

Overview of resources for the regular budget

- 7.20 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 7.2 and 7.3. The proposals reflect increases as a result of the projected workload requirements, taking into account recent workload trends in 2018 and 2019, and current costs for contractual services and general operating expenses, mainly in connection with requirements relating to communications and data processing services, and provision for non-recurrent resources for office automation equipment under furniture and equipment. Further details are provided under the respective components. The proposed resource level provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 7.2
Evolution of financial resources by component and main category of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Component	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2020 estimate (after recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total				Percentage
Members of the Court	7 178.4	7 256.7	–	–	57.2	57.2	0.8	7 313.9	280.3	7 594.2
Registry	14 509.1	13 846.0	–	–	295.7	295.7	2.1	14 141.7	790.5	14 932.2
Programme support	3 654.6	3 579.0	(110.0)	–	969.2	859.2	24.0	4 438.2	75.5	4 513.7
Total	25 342.1	24 681.7	(110.0)	–	1 322.1	1 212.1	4.9	25 893.8	1 146.3	27 040.1
Main category of expenditure										
Post	13 031.7	12 390.2	–	–	17.7	17.7	0.1	12 407.9	761.0	13 168.9
Non-post	12 310.4	12 291.5	(110.0)	–	1 304.4	1 194.4	9.7	13 485.9	385.3	13 871.2
Total	25 342.1	24 681.7	(110.0)	–	1 322.1	1 212.1	4.9	25 893.8	1 146.3	27 040.1

Table 7.3
Evolution of established post resources by category

Category	2019 approved	Changes			2020 estimate	Variance
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other		
Professional and higher						
ASG	1	–	–	–	1	–
D-2	1	–	–	–	1	–
D-1	1	–	–	–	1	–
P-5	4	–	–	–	4	–
P-4	15	–	–	1	16	1
P-3	18	–	–	(1)	17	(1)
P-2/1	20	–	–	–	20	–
Subtotal	60	–	–	–	60	–
General Service						
Principal level	6	–	–	–	6	–
Other level	50	–	–	–	50	–
Subtotal	56	–	–	–	56	–
Total	116	–	–	–	116	–

Note: The breakdown of post changes by component and post level is provided in annex II.

Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General.

Members of the Court

- 7.21 The International Court of Justice consists of 15 judges (“Members of the Court”), who are elected for a term of nine years by the General Assembly and the Security Council. Every three years, one third of the Court’s seats falls vacant. The Court, as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, is a universal body, within which the principal legal systems of the world and the main forms of civilization have to be represented in a balanced way (article 9 of the Statute). It is, as an institution composed in this broad-based way, that the Court has to pass judgment on the cases submitted to it. All the Members of the Court are therefore, in principle, required to participate in every case before it (article 25 of the Statute). In accordance with article 31 of the Statute, States parties to cases that have no judge of their nationality on the Bench may choose a judge ad hoc for the purposes of the case that concerns them. Judges ad hoc shall take part in the decision on terms of complete equality with the elected Members of the Court.
- 7.22 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$7,313,900 and reflect a net increase of \$57,200 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figures 7.II and 7.III and table 7.4.

Figure 7.II

Resources for Members of the Court as a percentage of the regular budget

(Millions of United States dollars)

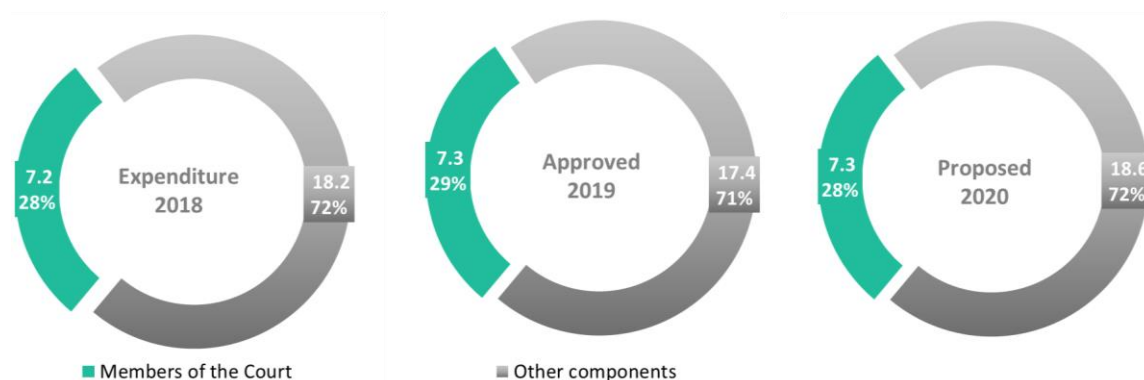


Table 7.4

Members of the Court: evolution of financial resources by main category of expenditure

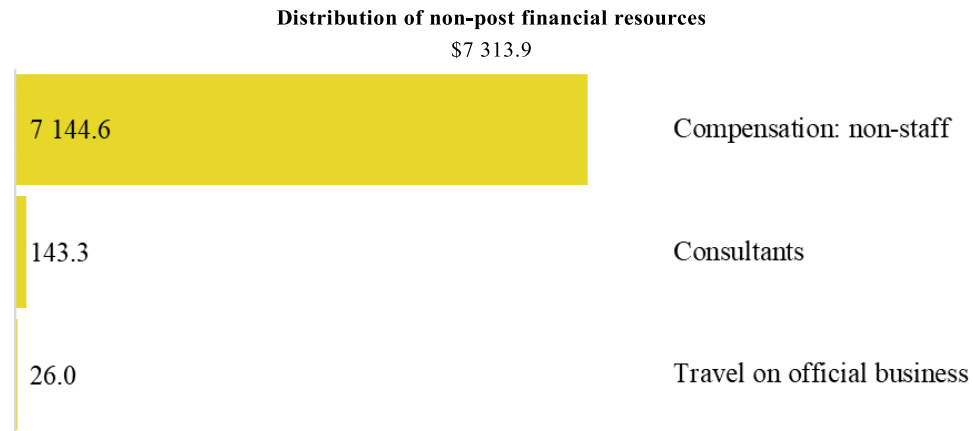
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes			Total	Percentage	2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	7 178.4	7 256.7	–	–	57.2	57.2	0.8	7 313.9
Total	7 178.4	7 256.7	–	–	57.2	57.2	0.8	7 313.9

Figure 7.III

Members of the Court: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)



7.23 The variance of \$57,200 reflects:

Other changes. The net increase of \$57,200 under non-staff compensation relates mainly to the increased requirements for pensions reflecting the actual cost of pensions for former judges and widowed spouses, as of the beginning of 2019, for 20 former judges and 12 widowed spouses, offset in part by the decreased requirements for non-staff compensation, based on current requirements for home leave travel and education grants for children of resident judges, and travel to Court sessions for non-resident judges in 2020, given that none of the current judges' mandate is due to end in 2020.

Registry

7.24 Given that the Court is both a judicial body and an international institution that is administratively independent from the Secretariat, its Registry must take on the dual role of an *auxiliaire de la justice* and an international secretariat. The Registry provides legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical support to the Court. It is responsible for administrative, conference, computerization, archival, distribution and documentary and library services, and acts as the regular channel for communications to and from the Court.

7.25 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$14,141,700 and reflect a net increase of \$295,700 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figures 7.IV to 7.VI and table 7.5.

Figure 7.IV

Resources for the Registry as a percentage of the regular budget

(Millions of United States dollars)

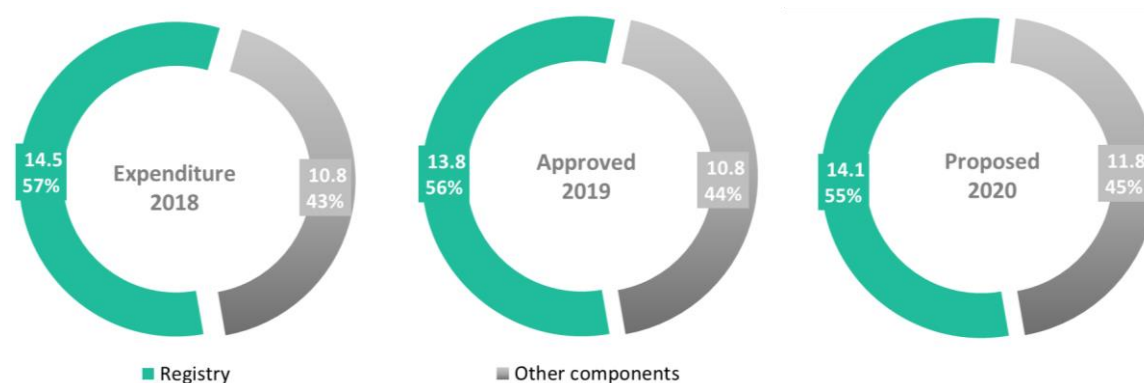


Table 7.5

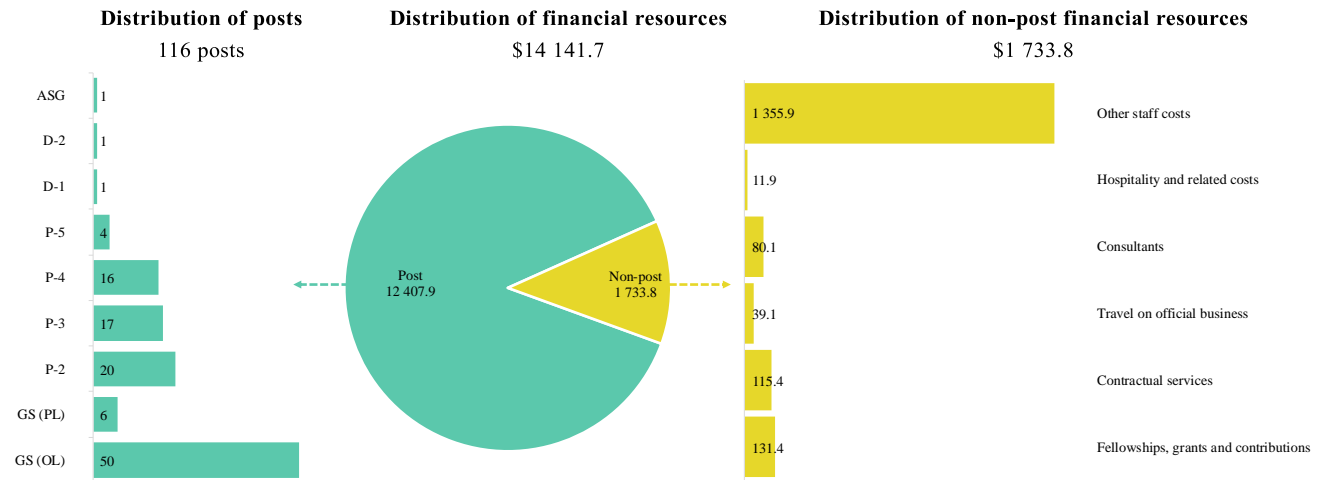
Registry: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				Total	Percentage	2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other				
Financial resources by main category of expenditure									
Post	13 031.7	12 390.2	–	–	17.7	17.7	0.1	12 407.9	
Non-post	1 477.4	1 455.8	–	–	278.0	278.0	19.1	1 733.8	
Total	14 509.1	13 846.0	–	–	295.7	295.7	2.1	14 141.7	
Post resources by category									
Professional and higher		60	–	–	–	–	–	60	
General Service and related		56	–	–	–	–	–	56	
Total		116	–	–	–	–	–	116	

Figure 7.V
Registry: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

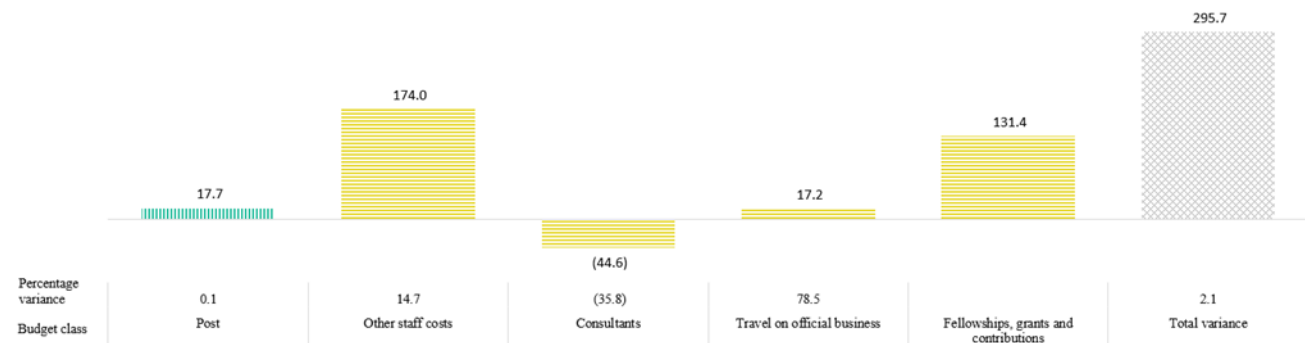
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

Figure 7.VI
Registry: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



7.26 The variance of \$295,700 reflects:

Other changes. The net increase of \$295,700 relates mainly to: (i) the proposed reclassification of one Legal Officer post (P-3) to the P-4 level in the Department of Legal Matters (\$17,700); (ii) increased resources for temporary assistance for meetings under other staff costs, for the engagement of freelance translators, interpreters, court reporters, proofreaders and text processing assistants, reflecting the projected workload requirements, taking into account recent workload trends in 2018 and 2019 (\$174,000); and (iii) increased resources for fellowships, grants and contributions due to full provision being made for the cost of services provided by the United Nations administration of justice system (\$131,400), based on the recently concluded agreement between the Court and the United Nations.

7.27 It is proposed that one Legal Officer post (P-3) be reclassified to the P-4 level (Legal Officer/ Secretary of the Court). In the light of the new practice of the Court to handle multiple cases in parallel in order to maximize its output, the complexity of tasks carried out by the existing members of the Department of Legal Matters has multiplied, in direct proportion to the number of cases simultaneously under consideration. In order for the Court to succeed in its endeavour to deal expeditiously with the many cases on its docket, the Department needs to be able to rely on an

additional legal officer with more extensive experience, whose grade properly reflects the complexity of responsibilities being assigned. The Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court would be entrusted with case-related responsibilities of greater complexity than expected at the P-3 grade, notably in terms of providing senior-level assistance in relation to the Court's judicial activity. The functions of the Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court include a number of duties and responsibilities that require the experience and expertise of a legal officer with more extensive experience, such as providing comprehensive support to the plenary of the Court in relation to its judicial activity and providing senior-level assistance to drafting committees for the Court's judgments. In these tasks, the Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court would report directly to the President and Members of the Court, the Registrar and the Principal Legal Secretary (D-1) and is given a high degree of discretionary and decision-making authority. In addition, the incumbent is required to liaise closely with other departments in the final processing of the Court's bilingual judgments, substantive orders and advisory opinions. In this respect, the Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court plays an important role in reviewing the case-related work of other departments (e.g., press releases in liaison with the Information Department, translations of draft judgments and other decisions in liaison with the Department of Linguistic Matters, and publications relating to the Court in liaison with the Publications Division), a task that requires a degree of decision-making authority.

- 7.28 In 2018, the Registry had a 100 per cent compliance rate with regard to both the timely submission of parliamentary documentation and the timely purchasing of air tickets (at least two weeks before the commencement of travel).

Programme support

- 7.29 The provisions under programme support relate to the common service requirements of the Court and its Registry, including the contribution of the United Nations to the Carnegie Foundation for the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague.
- 7.30 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$4,438,200 and reflect a net increase of \$859,200 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figures 7.VII to 7.IX and table 7.6.

Figure 7.VII

Resources for programme support as a percentage of the regular budget

(Millions of United States dollars)

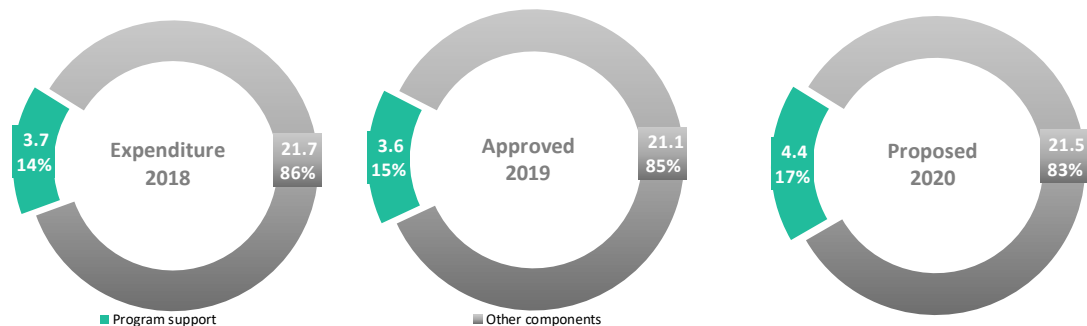


Table 7.6

Programme support: evolution of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes			Total	Percentage	2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	3 654.6	3 579.0	(110.0)	–	969.2	859.2	24.0	4 438.2
Total	3 654.6	3 579.0	(110.0)	–	969.2	859.2	24.0	4 438.2

Figure 7.VIII

Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

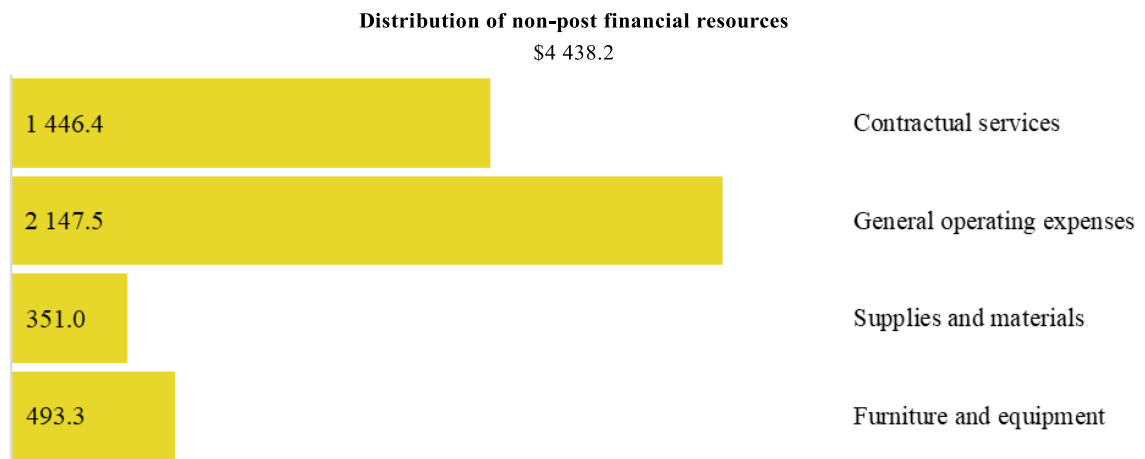
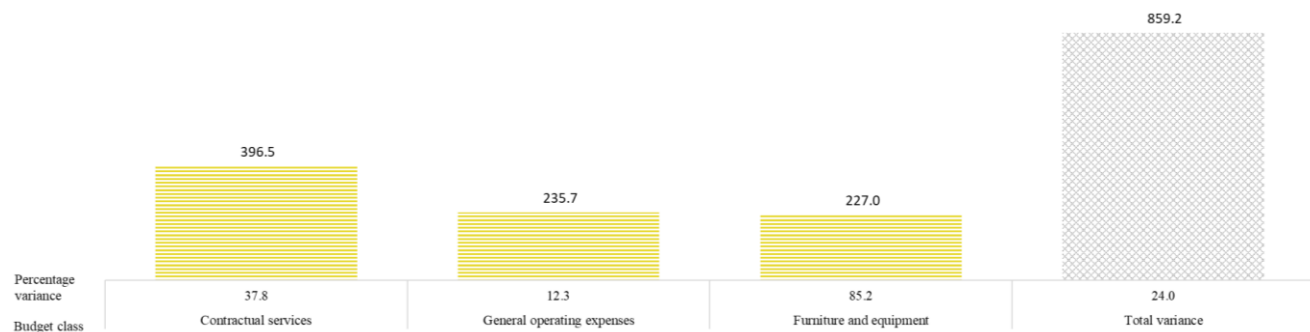


Figure 7.IX

Programme support: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



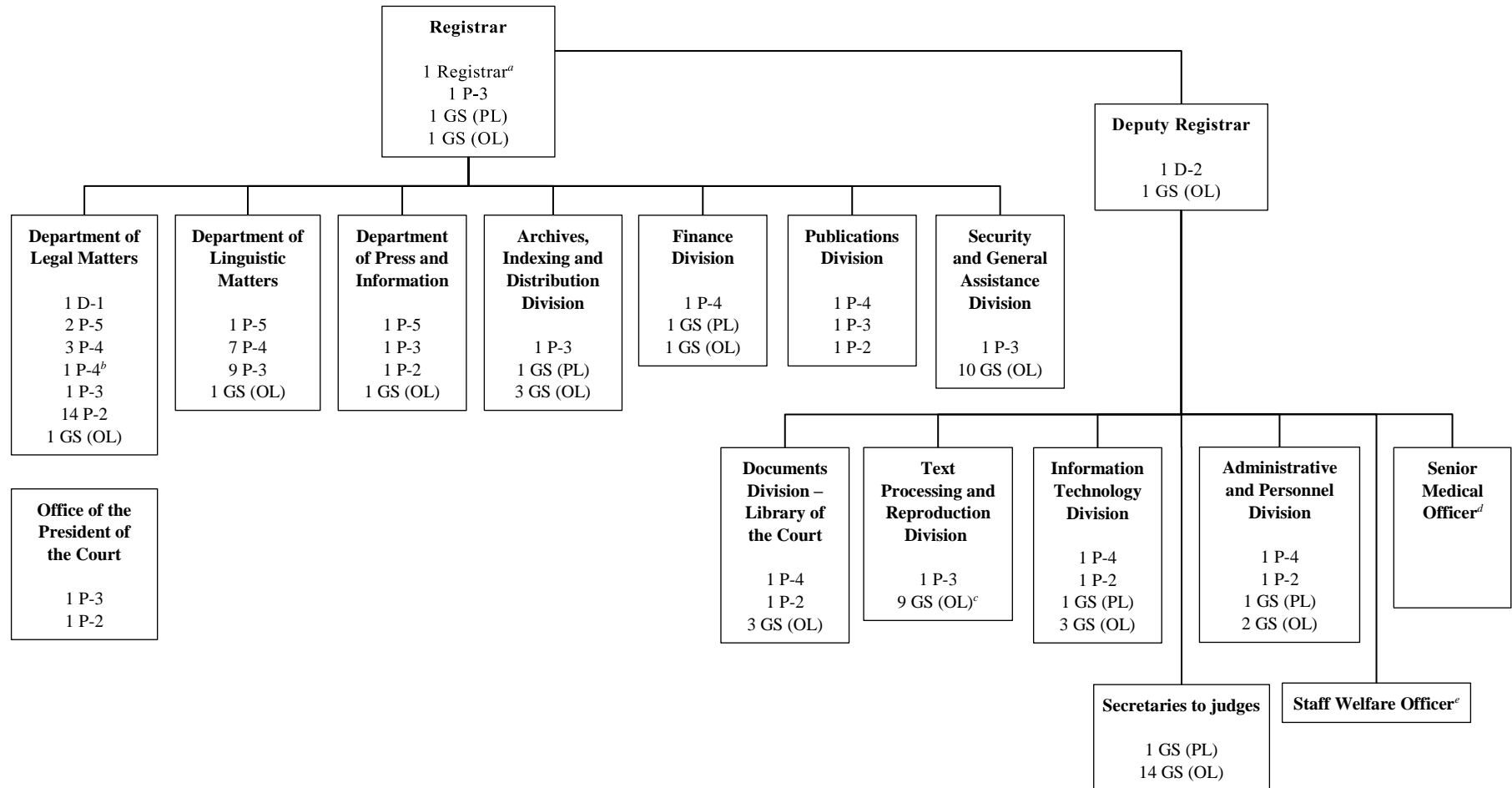
7.31 The variance of \$859,200 reflects:

- (a) **Technical adjustments.** The net decrease of \$110,000 under non-post resources relates to the removal of non-recurrent requirements relating to the replacement of office furniture and

cabinets, shelving and cabinets for archives and bookshelves in the offices of the Members of the Court;

- (b) **Other changes.** The net increase of \$969,200 under non-post resources relate mainly to (i) increased resources for contractual services (\$396,500), reflecting increases under data-processing services, in connection with the resource requirements for software licences, maintenance contracts for software applications and contracts for outsourced services, as well as new projects as part of the information and communications technology strategy of the International Court of Justice; increases under contractual services for external translation, reflecting the projected workload requirements, taking into account recent workload trends in 2018 and 2019; and increases under external printing, due to the provision for non-recurrent resources for the publication of a themed booklet for the seventy-fifth anniversary of the International Court of Justice and reprints of bound volumes of the reports of the Permanent Court of International Justice, the predecessor of the International Court of Justice, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Permanent Court of Justice; (ii) increased resources for general operating expenses (\$235,700), reflecting increases under communications based on current costs and due to enhancements of communications lines with the United Nations and Internet connections required for Umoja implementation, as well as to the new/improved facility contract for the provision of telephone services, and the maintenance of furniture and equipment, the rental and maintenance of premises and the rental of furniture and equipment reflecting current costs; and (iii) increased resources for furniture and equipment (\$337,000), reflecting the net effect of increases under office automation equipment relating to the non-recurrent provision for the procurement of hardware for a secondary (off-site) server room, encryption device connection to secondary data centre and additional processor and storage capacity, offset in part by decreases under office furniture and equipment.

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2020



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

^a In accordance with articles 21 and 32 of the Statute of the Court, the Registrar is appointed by the Court and his salary is fixed by the General Assembly upon the proposal of the Court. The Registrar is budgeted at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

^b Reclassification.

^c In addition, the Division will have two general temporary assistance positions to support the work of the office.

^d One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-5).

^e One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-3).

Annex II

**Summary of proposed changes in established and temporary posts,
by component and subprogramme**

	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Registry	1	P-4	Reclassification of 1 Legal Officer (P-3) to 1 Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court (P-4)	Reclassification of 1 Legal Officer (P-3) to 1 Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court (P-4), reflecting the need for an additional legal officer with more extensive experience who is given a high degree of discretionary and decision-making authority and who can provide senior-level assistance to the Court, reporting directly to the President and Members of the Court, the Registrar and the Principal Legal Secretary (D-1)
	(1)	P-3	Reclassification of 1 Legal Officer (P-3) to 1 Legal Officer/Secretary of the Court (P-4)	
Total	—			