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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/37/L.16

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 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the draft resolution entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States" contained in document A/37/L.16, dated 9 November 1982, the General Assembly, inter alia, would:

(a) Recommend that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, should determine which suggestions could be dealt with more appropriately at the bilateral level and which suggestions could be dealt with more appropriately at the multilateral level and arrange for them to be considered accordingly;

(b) Endorse the proposal that a meeting be held between the representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and representatives of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(c) Welcome the invitation by the League of Arab States that a meeting be held at the headquarters of the League at Tunis and request the Secretary-General to provide whatever assistance should be necessary to ensure the successful organization of the meeting;

(d) Request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the League of Arab States, to ensure that the meeting referred to in paragraph 9 above was held no later than 30 June 1983.

2. In connexion with the implementation of operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, it is envisaged that an Under-Secretary-General, accompanied by a staff member at the D-1 or D-2 level will visit the League's headquarters for consultations during the first quarter of 1983. The visit is expected to be of three days' duration. The cost of this travel and subsistence would amount to \$5,500.

3. Implementation of operative paragraphs 8 and 9 would require the Secretary-General, acting in consultation with the League of Arab States, to hold a meeting between the representatives of the Arab League General Secretariat and its specialized organizations, and the secretariats of the organizations within the United Nations system, and provide whatever assistance should be necessary to ensure the successful organization of the meeting. At the League of Arab States' invitation, it is expected that this meeting will be held at the headquarters of the League in Tunis, no later than 30 June 1983.

4. It is assumed that specific wording of paragraph 9 would constitute an exception to resolution 31/140; however, it is expected that the League of Arab States will provide the on-site facilities and services which are required for this meeting. The United Nations would be asked to provide for interpretation during the meeting and translation of the in-session documentation.

5. Servicing requirements for the meeting would be based on the following assumptions:

- (a) The meeting would be of three days' duration, with two meetings daily;
- (b) Language interpretation services would be provided in Arabic, English and French;
- (c) Pre-session and in-session documentation would each consist of 20 pages, provided in Arabic, English and French; post-session documentation would consist of 50 pages, provided in all six working languages (A, C, E, F, R, S);
- (d) Pre-session and post-session documentation would be provided from New York; in-session documentation and meeting servicing would be provided by the United Nations Office at Geneva.

6. The Secretary-General would be represented at the meeting by an Under-Secretary-General, with two supporting staff to serve as a co-Secretary and co-Rapporteur of the meeting, and two General Service staff members. Although the meeting would be of three days' duration, it is expected that the United Nations Secretariat staff would require two days of advance preparation in Tunis and two days for follow-up consultations. The cost for this travel and subsistence would amount to \$12,600.

7. It is also envisaged that after the meeting, two group meetings, of four days each, will be held at Tunis to discuss follow-up action. A senior staff member is expected to attend each of those meetings at a total cost of \$4,400.

8. The costs indicated above are summarized in the annex. The total of the estimated costs amounts to \$133,600, of which \$101,200 relates to standard requirements for conference servicing in 1983 and is based on full costs at 1983 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. The remaining amount of \$32,400 reflects the additional costs of travel and subsistence at the meeting site for conference-servicing staff and the costs for pre- and post-meeting consultation, for which an appropriation is requested.

9. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/37/L.16, an additional appropriation of \$32,400 would be required under section 1 of the 1982-1983 programme budget.

Annex

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Summary of requirements

	\$	\$
I. Costs for conference servicing		
Standard		
Pre-session documentation (8 000 words; A, E, F)	11 200	
Meeting servicing (6 meetings; A, E, F)	18 900	
In-session documentation (8 000 words; A, E, F)	9 600	
Post-session documentation (20 000 words; A, C, E, F, R, S)	59 500	
General operating expenses (shipment of documents, communications etc.)	2 000	101 200
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Additional		
Travel and subsistence of conference service staff (1 conference officer, 5 interpreters, 2 translators, 2 typists)	9 000	
Travel and subsistence of substantive staff (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 Director, 1 P-5, 2 General Service staff)	12 600	22 500
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II. Costs for consultations		
Travel of substantive staff to pre-conference consultations	5 500	
Travel of substantive staff to post-conference consultations	4 400	9 900
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Total		133 600
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