



# General Assembly

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Agenda items 135 and 107

### Proposed programme budget for 2020

**Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes**

## **Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes**

### **Programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.11/Rev.1](#)**

### **Twenty-ninth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2020**

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.11/Rev.1](#) ([A/C.5/74/12](#)). During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee met representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 9 December 2019.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2 to 5 of draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.11/Rev.1](#), the General Assembly would: (a) decide to establish an open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental committee of experts, representative of all regions, to elaborate a comprehensive international convention on countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, taking into full consideration existing international instruments and efforts at the national, regional and international levels on combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, in particular the work and outcomes of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study of Cybercrime; (b) decide that the ad hoc committee would convene a three-day organizational session in August 2020, in New York, in order to agree on an outline and modalities for its further activities, to be submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session for its consideration and approval; (c) request the Secretary-General to allocate the necessary resources in order to organize and support the work of the



ad hoc committee within the United Nations programme budget; and (d) invite donor countries to provide assistance to the United Nations in ensuring the active engagement of developing countries in the work of the ad hoc committee, including by covering travel costs and accommodation expenses. Furthermore, under the terms of operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, the Assembly would decide to examine the question at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes”.

3. According to the Secretary-General, the resources required to implement the request of the General Assembly contained in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution would amount to \$197,700 in 2020, as follows:

(a) Under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management: an amount of \$138,300, comprising \$50,400 for interpretation and conference servicing, \$54,000 for pre-session documentation and \$33,900 for post-session documentation ([A/C.5/74/12](#), paras. 4, 6, 10 and 11 and table 1);

(b) Under section 16, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice: an amount of \$55,000, comprising \$34,000 for general temporary assistance for four months of administrative support at the General Service level to the open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental committee and \$21,000 for the travel of three staff members of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime from Vienna to New York to provide substantive and administrative services at the organizational session of the ad hoc committee, in August 2020 (*ibid.*, paras. 5, 8, 13 and 14);

(c) Under section 36, Staff assessment: an amount of \$4,400 in connection with the aforementioned four positions funded under general temporary assistance (*ibid.*, para. 13 and table 2).

4. The Secretary-General indicates that no provisions had been made in the proposed programme budget for 2020 for the implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution and that it would not be possible to identify activities within the relevant sections concerned that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during 2020 (*ibid.*, para. 18). However, upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as August was considered a low peak period, it had since been determined that it was possible to absorb the total requirements in the amount of \$138,300 under section 2 (see para. 3 (a) above) and that that conclusion had been drawn following the publication of the statement by the Secretary-General.

**5. Taking into account that the requirements in the amount of \$138,300 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, will be fully absorbed within the proposed programme budget for 2020, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.11/Rev.1](#), an additional appropriation in the amount of \$59,400, representing a charge against the contingency fund, would be required under the proposed programme budget for 2020, comprising \$55,000 under section 16, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice, and \$4,400 under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.**