



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/1570
30 November 1973

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-eighth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 79 and 68

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975
AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1974-1977

ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF NATURAL DISASTER
AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.3/L.2082, as revised orally

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its 2041st meeting held on 28 November 1973, the Third Committee approved the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/L.2082, as revised orally.
2. Under operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General, as an interim measure, to draw on the Working Capital Fund in the amount of \$45,000 for 1974 and \$60,000 for 1975 for assistance to Governments, at their request, in co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system and the League of Red Cross Societies, where appropriate, in the elaboration of national preparations to meet natural disasters.
3. For its deliberations under item 68, the Third Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on preventive measures, disaster contingency planning and preparedness (A/9221). In that report, the Secretary-General indicated that he recognized the reasons which made it undesirable to continue to draw on the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of providing this type of assistance to Governments. The Secretary-General further expressed his belief that a modest provision for consultant advisory services to Governments should be added to the regular budget appropriation for the Office of the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator. Taking into consideration the requests for assistance already discussed with certain Governments and other requests that were anticipated, it was proposed by the Secretary-General that a provision in the

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budget might be made corresponding to some 18 man-months of consultant services for 1974 and some 24 man-months for 1975, at an estimated cost of \$45,000 for 1974 and \$60,000 for 1975.

4. The decision contained in draft resolution A/C.3/L.2082, as revised orally, is brought to the attention of the Fifth Committee.
