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Proposed programme budget for 2021

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Programme budget implications of draft resolution
[A/C.3/75/L.50/Rev.1](#)

Thirty-fifth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2021

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has 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.3/75/L.50/Rev.1](#) on a global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action ([A/C.5/75/18](#)). During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee received additional information and clarification from representatives of the Secretary-General, concluding with written responses received on 9 December 2020.

2. The terms of operative paragraphs 13, 15, 28 to 30 and 35 of draft resolution [A/C.3/75/L.50/Rev.1](#) are set out in paragraph 2 (a) to (f) of the statement of the Secretary-General. The General Assembly would, inter alia: (a) welcome the establishment of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent to serve as a consultation mechanism for people of African descent and other interested



stakeholders and the conclusion of the modalities, format and substantive and procedural aspects of the Permanent Forum by Member States and observer States, with further consultations with people of African descent; (b) decide to hold a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, at the level of Heads of State and Government, on the second day of the general debate of the seventy-sixth session; and (c) request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat to launch a public information campaign for the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, including the wide distribution of user-friendly information materials through the United Nations system, inter alia, through United Nations information centres. The statement of the Secretary-General provides additional information on the relationship of the proposed requests to the proposed programme budget for 2021 (*ibid.*, para. 3); and the activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented (*ibid.*, paras. 4–8).

II. Resource requirements

3. The financial implications of the proposals include conference-servicing and non-conference-servicing resource requirements for 2021. With regard to conference-servicing requirements, the Secretary-General, in his statement, indicates that it is not possible at present to estimate the potential cost implications of requirements under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for the Permanent Forum or the high-level meeting and that, upon decision on the modalities, format and substantive and procedural aspects of the Permanent Forum or on the modalities and format of the high-level meeting, the Secretary-General would submit the relevant costs of such requirements, in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (*ibid.*, paras. 9 and 10).

4. The financial implications of the proposals with regard to non-conference-servicing requirements amount to \$262,900, including \$23,300 under section 24, Human rights, \$239,000 under section 28, Global Communications, and \$600 under section 36, Staff assessment (*ibid.*, table 1). The Secretary-General indicates that the estimated requirements would provide for the following activities and comprise:

(a) With regard to operative paragraph 28 of the draft resolution, a total non-recurrent amount of \$23,300 under section 24, Human rights, to cover travel and daily subsistence allowance expenses for the mandate holders attending the one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly and an additional amount of \$8,500 under section 28, Global communications, to cover webcasting services (*ibid.*, para. 11);

(b) With regard to operative paragraph 35 of the draft resolution, a total non-recurrent amount of \$230,500, under section 28, Global communications, for the production and dissemination of short multimedia series of positive stories, comprising an explainer or curtain-raiser (\$25,000); a film to promote the twentieth anniversary of the Durban Declaration and the International Decade for People of African Descent (\$10,000); in-depth feature stories focusing on different regions in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and possibly Europe (\$50,000); the design and creation of the website in English dedicated to the anniversary, which would be translated into the other five official languages (\$17,500); the development and dissemination of a social media strategy and content, including multilingual social media assets (\$98,000); and seed money for United Nations information centres to carry out public information and outreach activities implementing the public

information campaign for the commemoration of the anniversary in the United Nations global network (\$30,000) (ibid., para. 12).

5. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with further information on the estimated non-conference-servicing requirements, including details related to the social media strategy and the seed money for United Nations information centres.

6. The Advisory Committee trusts that the statements of the Secretary-General on programme budget implications of draft resolutions and decisions will include, as a matter of routine and as appropriate, further details on the resource requirements and expenditures related to the proposals.

7. In his statement, the Secretary-General indicates that no provisions have been made in the proposed programme budget for 2021 for the implementation of the activities requested in the draft resolution and that, at the present stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for 2021 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during 2021.

III. Conclusion

8. The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution [A/C.3/75/L.50/Rev.1](#), additional resource requirements in the amount of \$262,300 for 2021 would arise under the proposed programme budget for 2021, including \$23,300 under section 24, Human rights, and \$239,000 under section 28, Global communications. The Assembly would be requested to approve additional appropriations in the amount of \$262,300, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund.

9. The General Assembly would also be requested to appropriate an additional amount of \$600 under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.