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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989

THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/43/L.12

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 respectively of draft resolution A/43/L.12 concerning the situation in Kampuchea, the General Assembly would:

(a) Take note with appreciation of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea on its activities during 1987-1988 ^{1/} and request that the Committee continue its work, pending the reconvening of the Conference;

(b) Authorize the Ad Hoc Committee to convene when necessary and to carry out the tasks entrusted to it in its mandate;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to continue to consult with and assist the Conference and the Ad Hoc Committee and to provide them on a regular basis with the necessary facilities to carry out their functions.

2. The Ad Hoc Committee was established on 17 July 1981 by resolution 1 (I) of the International Conference on Kampuchea. ^{2/} By that resolution, the Conference entrusted the Committee with the following tasks:

(a) To assist the Conference in seeking a comprehensive political settlement of the Kampuchean question in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/6 of 22 October 1980;

(b) To act as an advisory body to the Secretary-General between sessions of the Conference;

(c) To undertake missions, when appropriate, in consultation with the Secretary-General and taking into account his recommendations, in pursuit of a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in Kampuchea;

(d) To advise the President of the Conference, after consultations with the Secretary-General, as to when the Conference should be reconvened.

By the same resolution, the Conference also requested the Committee to submit reports to the Conference.

3. The mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee has been extended annually by the General Assembly, most recently by resolution 42/3 of 14 October 1987. These resolutions constitute the legislative framework for the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee which, given their "perennial character" have been included in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. 3/ Therefore, should the Assembly decide to adopt the recommendations contained in operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 of the draft resolution, it is assumed as indicated in paragraphs 3.105 and 3.115 of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 that the Ad Hoc Committee would hold 10 sessions of one day each in New York in the course of 1989. The Ad Hoc Committee would also hold consultations with the President of the International Conference on Kampuchea in New York for a period of five days. It is assumed that the Ad Hoc Committee would, furthermore, undertake in 1989 two missions of two weeks' duration each, in order to consult with Governments in South-East Asia and other interested countries.

4. As indicated in paragraph 2 above, the Ad Hoc Committee has been entrusted, inter alia, with the task of assisting the Conference in search for a comprehensive political settlement of the Kampuchean question and acting as an advisory body to both the Secretary-General and the President of the Conference. The secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee assists the Chairman in the performance of these tasks and is responsible for the substantive servicing of the Committee. It also organizes and takes part in the missions of the Committee and prepares reports on its activities.

5. Since the activities referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 above have been programmed under section 3E of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, no modification of the programmed activities would be required.

6. The related resources estimates have also been approved under section 3E of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. 4/ Those estimates are based on the level of activities approved for the year 1987 and the actual rate of implementation of the work programme over the past two bienniums. On that basis it is estimated that no additional cost would be incurred under section 3E.

7. With respect to the conference-servicing of the Ad Hoc Committee sessions in 1980 referred to in paragraph 3 above, it is assumed as in the past that they would be absorbed from within resources as approved under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. 5/

II. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

8. Under the terms of operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution the General Assembly would "reaffirm its commitment to reconvene the Conference at an appropriate time, in accordance with Conference resolution 1 (I), and its readiness to support any other conference of an international nature under the auspices of the Secretary-General".

9. It is difficult at the present stage to foresee with any certainty when and where the International Conference on Kampuchea would be reconvened or any other conference of an international nature, as mentioned in operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, would be organized. No appropriation is, therefore, requested at the present time. Should a decision to convene the Conference or organize any other conference be reached in the course of 1989, the Secretary-General would endeavour to accommodate the related requirements from within resources programmed under sections 3 and 29 of the programme budget for 1988-1989. Should those resources prove to be insufficient, the Secretary-General would seek the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to enter into the necessary commitments with regard to the balance of the requirements for those activities

III. GOOD OFFICES OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

10. By operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would express its appreciation once again to the Secretary-General for taking appropriate steps in following the situation closely and would request him to continue to do so and to exercise his good offices in order to contribute to a comprehensive political settlement.

11. Section 3E of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 provides for a subprogramme "Fact finding and good offices", the objective of which is to assist the Secretary-General in the fulfilment of the mandates of good offices arising from General Assembly resolutions or from the discharge of his responsibilities under the Charter, with respect to the South-East Asian region. 6/ Therefore no modification of the programmed activities would be required.

12. With regard to the resources required, the General Assembly at its forty-second session already approved resources for the activities of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia under section 3E of the 1988-1989 programme budget. 7/ Moreover, it should be noted that commitments in the amount of \$25,000 were entered into by the Secretary-General under the provisions of resolution 42/227 on unforeseen and

extraordinary expenditures for the biennium 1988-1989, to cover additional 1988 travel by the Special Representative. An appropriation in that amount will be requested in the context of the first performance report for the current biennium. Regarding the year 1989, it is expected that the level of the requirements for the Special Representative would largely depend on the pace of developments relating to the situation in Kampuchea. Every effort would be made, therefore, to accommodate these activities from within the resources already authorized for the Special Representative. Should those resources prove to be insufficient, any resulting overexpenditure would be reported in the context of the final performance report for the biennium 1988-1989.

IV. CO-ORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES TO KAMPUCHEANS

13. Under operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would reiterate its deep appreciation to the Secretary-General for his efforts in co-ordinating humanitarian relief assistance and in monitoring its distribution and would request him to intensify such efforts as necessary.

14. As indicated in paragraph 3.117 of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, the activities referred to in operative paragraph 9 are carried out by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Co-ordination of Humanitarian Assistance Programmes to Kampuchees. A Special Representative was appointed in 1980 on a temporary basis by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/22 of 14 November 1979. The functions of the Special Representative were extended annually by Assembly resolutions requesting the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts in co-ordinating humanitarian relief assistance and monitoring its distribution, the most recent of which is resolution 42/3. These resolutions constitute the legislative framework for these programmes which, given their "perennial character", have been approved by the Assembly in the programme budget under section 3E. 8/

15. As indicated in paragraph 3.118 of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, as at 1 March 1987 the responsibilities of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General have been assigned to the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The main objectives of the programme, the related two subprogrammes, programme elements and outputs are described in paragraphs 3.119 and 3.120 of the programme budget for the 1988-1989 biennium. No modification of the programmed activities would be required.

16. The related resource requirements have also been approved under section 3E of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. 9/ Those resources are based on the level of the activities as announced for the year 1987 and the actual rate of implementation of the work programme over the past three years. In that connection it should be recalled that it has been proposed in the context of the revised estimates for the programme budget for 1988-1989 to relocate in the Office of the Special Representative for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia the New York liaison functions required by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Co-ordination of Humanitarian Assistance Programmes to

Kampuchean, with a related adjustment in resources. 10/ Subject to that adjustment it is estimated that no additional resources would be required to accommodate the activities called for under operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution.

IV. SUMMARY

17. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/43/L.12, it is estimated that no additional appropriations or programmatic changes would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989.

Notes

1/ A/CONF.109/13.

2/ Report of the International Conference on Kampuchea, New York, 13-17 July 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.I.20), annex II.

3/ A/42/6 (sect. 3), paras. 3.103-3.106; A/42/6/Add.1 (sect. I), p. 23.

4/ Ibid., para. 3.107.

5/ A/42/6 (sect. 29).

6/ A/42/6 (sect. 3), paras. 3.112 and 3.113.

7/ A/42/6/Add.1, p. 23.

8/ A/42/6 (sect. 3), paras. 3.117-3.120.

9/ Ibid., paras. 3.121-3.127; A/C.5/43/1/Rev.1.

10/ A/C.5/43/1/Rev.1, sect. III, para. 3.17.
