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Agenda item 68

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE  
OF PEACE: REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution  
contained in document A/43/29

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

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 4, 7 and 13 of the draft resolution contained in document A/43/29, the General Assembly would:

(a) Renew the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee as defined in the relevant resolutions, and request the Committee to intensify its work with regard to the implementation of its mandate;

(b) Request the Ad Hoc Committee to hold two preparatory sessions during the first half of 1989, the first with a duration of one week and the second with a duration of two weeks, for completion of the remaining preparatory work relating to the Conference on the Indian Ocean to enable the convening of the Conference at Colombo in 1990 in consultation with the host country;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to continue to render all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records, in recognition of its preparatory function.

**B. Relationship of proposed requests to the approved programme of work**

2. The activities proposed fall under chapter 1 (Political and Security Council Affairs activities), programme 2 (Activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs), subprogramme 1 (Deliberation and negotiation) of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. 1/ As part of the reforms initiated in response to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, the Secretary-General has decided that, in order to permit the consolidation of servicing for General Assembly agenda items related to zones and regions of peace and co-operation, primary responsibility for servicing the Ad Hoc Committee should rest with the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs.

3. This change has been reflected in the proposed revision of the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 2/ recently considered by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, which recommended certain amendments. 3/ It is also reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. Programme element 2.4 (Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean) of subprogramme 2 (Service for Political and Security Council affairs) of section 2A.B (Department of Political and Security Council Affairs) of the programme budget provides for substantive servicing of at least two sessions annually of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. 4/

**C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented**

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would undertake the necessary preparations for the servicing of two sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee in 1989, one of one week's duration and one of two weeks' duration.

**D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1988-1989**

5. As provision has been made in the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 for substantive servicing of at least two sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee annually, no modification would be required in the proposed programme of work under section 2A.

**E. Additional requirements at full costs**

6. Should the General Assembly decide to adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/43/29, it is assumed that the Ad Hoc Committee would hold one session of one week's duration and one session of two weeks' duration in New York during 1989, from 10 to 14 April and from 5 to 19 July. The meetings would require the provision of interpretation in the six languages of the General Assembly; translation of pre-session documentation of 170 pages (6 documents), in-session documentation of 50 pages (10 documents) and post-session documentation of 50 pages (10 documents), to be issued in the six languages of the General Assembly; and the provision of summary records in the six languages of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 37/14 C of 16 November 1982.

7. The related full cost of provision of conference servicing for one one-week and one two-week session in New York is estimated at \$402,700 for the first session and \$476,500 for the second session of the Ad Hoc Committee, as follows:

	<u>First session</u>	<u>Second session</u>
I. <u>Pre-session documentation</u>		
(150 pages, 1 document: A,C,E,F,R,S)	152 100	
(20 pages, 5 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)		22 400
II. <u>Meeting servicing</u>		
Interpretation (A,C,E,F,R,S)	46 100	101 300
III. <u>In-session documentation</u>		
(25 pages, 5 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	27 000	27 000
IV. <u>Post-session documentation</u>		
(25 pages, 5 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	27 800	27 800
V. <u>Summary records</u>		
(10 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)	136 800	
(22 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)		269 600
VI. <u>Requirements of the Office of     General Services</u>	<u>12 900</u>	<u>28 400</u>
Total	<u>402 700</u>	<u>476 500</u>

#### F. Potential for absorption

8. Section 2A of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 provides for substantive servicing of at least two sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee annually.

9. As regards cost estimates for conference servicing requirements, these are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of them will be met from within the permanent capacity of the Department of Conference Services, which would require additional resources for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the permanent capacity of the Department needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can only be determined in the light of the final calendar of conferences approved by the General Assembly. As indicated in paragraph 29.6 of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 (A/42/6 (sect. 29)), however, the 1988-1989 requirements under temporary assistance for meetings have been estimated on the basis of a five-year average of appropriations and actual expenditure for the period 1982-1986 and have been included in the

initial appropriations for the biennium 1988-1989. Provision has already been made, therefore, not only for meetings known at the time of budget preparation but also for those authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences held during 1988-1989 is consistent with the pattern experienced over the past five years.

G. Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/43/29, no additional appropriations would be required under section 2A or section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6 and Corr.1) and *ibid.*, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/39/6 and Corr.1).

2/ A/43/6, para. 1.14 (iii).

3/ A/43/16, para. 112 (c).

4/ A/42/6 (Sect. 2A) as amended by A/42/6/Add.1, chap. III, para. 2A.30.

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