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FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 98 and 22

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/34/L.6

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

1. Under the terms of the draft resolution contained in document A/34/L.6 the General Assembly would:

(a) Approve the convening of the two parts of the ninth session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in New York for the period from 27 February to 4 April, and at Geneva for the period from 28 July to 29 August 1980;

(b) Request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Secretary-General of the Conference, to prepare a study on the training needs of developing countries in deep-sea mining and related activities for submission to the conference as early as possible in 1980.

2. As shown in detail in the annex of the present statement, the conference servicing requirements of the ninth session of the Conference are estimated at \$1,815,100 for the first part (to be held in New York) and at \$1,849,700 for the second part (to be held in Geneva). Inasmuch as these estimates are provided on a full cost basis, no additional appropriations are requested at this time. The total estimated requirements of \$3,664,800 will, therefore, be considered in the context of a consolidated statement on conference servicing requirements to be submitted towards the end of the thirty-fourth session, through which net additional resources in conference servicing requirements will be requested in the light of the 1980 calendar of conferences as finally approved by the General Assembly.

3. While no appropriations are requested at this time with respect to conference and common service costs as explained above, appropriations in an amount of \$399,700 will be required in the event of the adoption of the draft resolution to cover requirements for the secretariat of the Conference and for the Department of Public Information as follows:

	<u>Session in New York</u>	<u>Session in Geneva</u>	
	\$	\$	
(i) Section 2C - Conference secretariat			
(a) Travel and subsistence of 45 staff members	-	167,900	
(b) Temporary assistance (5 junior Professionals)	14,100	24,200	
(c) Temporary assistance (9 secretaries in New York and 11 in Geneva)	11,000	29,600	
(d) Overtime	2,500	2,500	
(e) General operating expenses			
(1) Rental of copying machines	2,000	3,000	
(2) Rental of voting machine	-	25,300	
(3) Communications	-	4,000	
(4) Hospitality (for two sessions)	6,000	-	
(f) Miscellaneous expenses (freight, insurance etc.)	-	7,500	
(g) Supplies and materials	-	500	
(h) Travel and subsistence of representatives of liberation movements (General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX))	26,000	22,000	
Subtotal	61,600	286,500	348,100

	<u>Session in New York</u>	<u>Session in Geneva</u>	
	\$	\$	
(ii) Section 27 - Department of Public Information			
(a) Temporary assistance			
for New York - 2 press officers (P-3), 1 typist (GS), 1 video camera director (P-3), 1 production assistant (GS) and 4 contractual engineers	24,700		
for Geneva - 1 writer-producer (P-3), 1 radio technician (GS), 1 sound technician (GS) and 1 part-time cameraman		10,000	
(b) Travel and subsistence of staff from New York (2 press officers, 1 radio officer and 1 production assistant)	-	14,900	
(c) Overtime (for technicians)	-	1,000	
(d) Supplies (tapes etc.)	-	1,000	
	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>26,900</u>	51,600
	<u>Total</u>	<u>313,400</u>	<u>399,700</u>

4. The above requirements are projected essentially on the same basis as in the past, with the addition of provision for a voting machine to be available, if necessary (item (i) (e) (2)). The estimated amount of \$25,300 provides for rental of this equipment for four weeks during the second part of the session in Geneva to expedite the work of the Conference during its crucial final stages.

5. Should agreement be reached on the text of the final convention at the ninth session, it will become necessary to produce, at short notice, the text in six languages through external printing. If such requirements arise following the ninth session, financial provision will be requested in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981.

6. Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Secretary-General of the Conference, to prepare a study on the training needs of developing countries in deep-sea mining and related activities for submission to the Conference as early as possible in 1980. Should the draft resolution be adopted, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to prepare this study within existing resources.

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7. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/34/L.6, additional appropriations of \$399,700 would be required under sections 2C (\$348,100) and 27 (\$51,600). A further provision of \$18,500 would be required for additional staff assessment under section 31, offset by an increase of the same amount under income section 1.

8. As regards conference servicing costs, additional requirements not exceeding \$3,664,800 would arise under sections 28 and 29. These requirements would be considered in the context of a consolidated statement on conference servicing requirements to be submitted towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly.

Other matter pertaining to the Conference

9. The General Assembly, by its decision 33/405 of 10 November 1978, decided to continue the existing arrangements for the President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea for the year 1979 and decided that, in order to enable the President to discharge his functions properly, he should be deemed to have the status of an official of the United Nations for the purposes of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations. Should the General Assembly wish to continue, for the year 1980, the arrangements which it approved for the year 1979 in respect of the position of the President, an additional appropriation would be required as follows:

	\$
Honorarium	50,000
Travel (NY/GVA/NY)	900
Subsistence (in Geneva)	4,200
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	55,100

ANNEX

A. New York session (27 February-4 April 1980)

Assumption:

- (1) Four meetings per day for the first three days devoted to group meetings, with interpretation in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish), preceding the official start of the Conference on 3 March 1980.
- (2) Fourteen meetings per day during the first three weeks of the Conference, with interpretation in six languages for 10 meetings per day and with interpretation in three languages (English, French and Spanish) for the remaining 4 meetings per day.
- (3) Eight meetings per day during the fourth and fifth weeks, with interpretation in six languages.
- (4) Summary records would be provided in six languages for a total of five meetings during the first three weeks of the Conference, three meetings per day during the fourth week and six meetings per day during the fifth week.
- (5) Documentation would be provided in six languages for both in-session (600 pages) and post-session (200 pages) documentation.

Estimated cost:

Department of Conference Services

\$

I. In-session

Interpretation (2,690 work-days)	919,900
Translation (600 work-days), revision (200 work-days), typing (660 work-days)	282,800
Reproduction and distribution	25,700
Other supporting staff (9 conference officers, 1 reference clerk and 1 documents control clerk)	10,100

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II. Summary records

Précis-writing/translation (650 work-days), revision (150 work-days), typing (900 work-days)	345,100
Reproduction and distribution	66,800

III. Post-session

Translation (200 work-days), revision (67 work-days) and typing (220 work-days)	76,000
Reproduction and distribution	13,700

I, II and III subtotal 1,740,100

Office of General Services

Sound engineering	21,000
Security	39,000
General operating expenses	15,000
Subtotal	75,000

Grand total 1,815,100

B. Geneva session (28 July-29 August 1980)

Assumption:

- (1) Ten meetings per day throughout the session with interpretation in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) for eight meetings and in three languages (English, French and Spanish) for the remaining two meetings per day.
- (2) Summary records would be provided in six languages for eight meetings per day for the first week-and-a-half and for three meetings per day for the remaining three-and-a-half weeks.
- (3) Documentation would be provided in six languages for both in-session (600 pages) and post-session (300 pages) documentation.

Estimated cost:

	\$
I. <u>In-session</u>	
Interpretation (2,225 work-days)	641,700
Translation (600 work-days), revision (200 work-days), typing (660 work-days)	260,600
Reproduction and distribution	21,100
Other supporting staff (4 conference officers, 10 meeting-room attendants, 1 reference clerk, 1 documents control clerk, 11 sound technicians, 4 messengers and 2 guards)	56,500
II. <u>Summary records</u>	
Précis-writing/translation (1,463 work-days), revision (338 work-days), typing (2,025 work-days)	635,500
Reproduction and distribution	49,100
III. <u>Post-session</u> (to be processed in New York)	
Translation (300 work-days), revision (100 work-days) and typing (330 work-days)	164,800
Reproduction and distribution	20,400
I, II and III Total	1,849,700