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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Revised estimates under section 1, over-all policy-making
direction and co-ordination

The World Food Council

Report of the Secretary-General

1. For the first two years following the establishment of the World Food Council (WFC) by General Assembly resolution 3343 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, the responsibility for the costs related to the functioning of the Council and its secretariat has been shared by both the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
2. At its sixty-ninth session, held in Rome from 12 to 16 July 1976, the FAO Council agreed that, since WFC was a United Nations organ, the United Nations should take full responsibility for financing the WFC secretariat and for the costs of WFC meetings, as well as for related administrative support costs. It further decided that the phrase "The World Food Council should be serviced within the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization", which was contained in the resolution of the World Food Conference establishing the World Food Council, 1/ should henceforth be taken to mean the substantive support which was required of FAO by the WFC decision and for which FAO would make internal budgetary provisions.
3. As a result, beginning with the first performance report for the biennium 1976-1977 2/ the costs previously met by FAO were charged against the United Nations budget.

1/ E/CONF.65/20, report of the World Food Conference, resolution 22.

2/ A/C.5/31/37, paras. 1.21-1.40.

4. The question also arose as to the possible liability of the United Nations for rental and other costs relating to the premises previously provided free of charge by FAO to the WFC secretariat. According to the "supplementary arrangements between the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations" regarding co-operation between WFC and FAO, signed on 28 August 1978 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of FAO, the WFC is to bear the cost of any services or facilities provided by FAO in accordance with exchanges of letters concluded from time to time by FAO and WFC.

5. By an exchange of letters between the Executive Director of WFC and the Director of Cabinet of FAO, it was agreed that FAO would give to WFC, free of charge, the following services: use of pouch, local telephone calls, use of FAO Library, language-testing facilities, medical service facilities and assistance with protocol matters, such as obtaining visas, custom clearance and similar services. For all other services FAO decided to charge WFC at standard costs, and has been billing WFC for rental of the premises occupied by WFC at FAO headquarters since 1 January 1977. The General Assembly at its thirty-third session 3/ was informed that, since negotiations were being carried out by the United Nations with FAO concerning, on the one hand, the rental due for the office space occupied by WFC at FAO headquarters and, on the other, the rental due by FAO since 1977 for the office space occupied by its liaison office at the United Nations Headquarters, no appropriations were at that time requested for rental for the biennium 1978-1979. For the same reason no provision has been made for rental in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981. 4/

6. These negotiations having been concluded, the Secretary-General is convinced of the need to settle the outstanding rental costs pertaining to the premises occupied by WFC in Rome. Conversely payment will be requested from FAO on account of the amounts due for rental of its liaison office at United Nations Headquarters.

7. The appropriations required to cover the liability for the rental until the end of 1979 will be requested in the final performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979.

8. The resources required for rent during the years 1980-1981 are estimated as follows:

<u>1979 Base</u>	<u>1980 Estimate</u>	<u>1981 Estimate</u>
540 m ² x \$166.68 <u>5/</u> per m ² \$90,007	540 m ² x \$183.35 per m ² \$99,009	540 m ² x \$201.68 per m ² \$108,907

3/ A/C.5/33/32, paras. 28 and 29.

4/ A/34/6, para. 1.37.

5/ Inclusive of rental, maintenance expenses, heating and air-conditioning.

9. Therefore an additional appropriation of \$207,900, of which \$99,000 refer to 1980 and \$108,900 refer to 1981, is requested under section 1.A.6, "Over-all policy-making, direction and co-ordination, the World Food Council".

10. The amount to be received from FAO in 1980-1981 for the rental of the office space occupied by its liaison office at United Nations Headquarters is estimated at \$107,800, of which \$52,800 refer to 1980 and \$55,000 to 1981. This amount has already been included in the estimates of Income Section 2 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981. 6/

6/ See A/34/6, part B, sect. 2, table 2.3.