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ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES AND WAYS AND MEANS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS
SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.3/33/L.37

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

1. In operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/33/L.37, the General Assembly would decide "in principle to establish, under the authority of the Secretary-General, a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, possessing the degree of personal independence, the prestige and the integrity required for the prudent and impartial performance of his functions, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations".
2. In operative paragraph 2 of the same draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General "to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, concrete proposals concerning the organization of the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights, taking into account the results of the study entrusted to the Commission on Human Rights by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/130.
3. As the draft resolution calls only for a decision in the principle of the establishment of the Office of the United Nations Human Rights Commissioner and since the specific financial implications of the resolution will depend upon detailed proposals on the future organization of his office to be presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, the Secretary-General is not at present in a position to provide more than a tentative estimate.
4. However, for purpose of reference, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the financial implications statement contained in document A/C.3/32/L.37 which was presented to the Third Committee last year in connexion with draft resolution A/C.3/32/L.25/Rev.1 relating to the same item. At that time the assumptions were:

(a) That the High Commissioner would be appointed at the Under-Secretary-General level, that he would be assisted initially by at least one Professional staff member at the P-4 level and a senior secretary (principal level);

(b) That related requirements for common services would arise, such as furniture, office equipment, and general operating expenses, but that the exact amount would be determined after the staffing and other requirements of the Office have been finally decided upon and presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session as part of the proposals of the Secretary-General called for in paragraph 7 of the resolution;

(c) That, although the exact amount of travel on official business to be carried out by the High Commissioner could not be determined with certainty at the time, it was assumed that as a minimum in his first year in office, the High Commissioner might make four two-week trips to various parts of the world in carrying out his mandate.

5. Thus it was estimated last year that the cost of establishing the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights would amount to \$209,600 in New York and \$234,000 in Geneva as follows:

	<u>New York</u>	<u>Geneva</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Salaries (1 USG, 1 P-4, 1 GS)	106,400	130,000
Travel on official business (first class)	18,500	19,600
Common staff costs	34,100	33,800
General operating expenses (Office furniture, communications, etc.)	<u>50,600</u>	<u>50,600</u>
Total	<u><u>209,600</u></u>	<u><u>234,000</u></u>

6. At current costs, the cost of establishing the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights in the biennium 1980-1981 could be estimated at \$235,000 in New York and \$360,000 in Geneva.

7. Thus should the Third Committee adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/33/L.37, this will give rise to expenditures paralleling those submitted to the Committee in the amounts shown in paragraph 6 above.
