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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution  
contained in document A/39/L.10/Rev.1

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 9 and 10 of the draft resolution entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States" contained in document A/39/L.10/Rev.1, the General Assembly, inter alia, would:

(a) Reaffirm its recommendation contained in resolution 38/6 that another sectoral meeting on social development be organized in April 1985, under the aegis of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in a country member of that organization, to give careful consideration to projects prepared for joint implementation, in conformity with the priorities set forth in paragraphs 61 and 62 of the report of the Secretary-General, 1/ including joint sectoral meetings;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States concerning arrangements for the organization of the above-mentioned meeting and to provide all necessary assistance and facilities to ensure its success.

B. Relationship of proposed requests to approved programme of work

2. Should the draft resolution be adopted, the Secretary-General would assign primary responsibility for the implementation of the request in the operative paragraphs cited above to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions. The activities of that office which are described in section 1B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 2/ include, inter alia, assistance in maintaining effective co-operation with the League of Arab States, following the work of the organization and assuring liaison on questions involving the interests and activities of the United Nations. There is no provision in the current medium-term plan for this activity.

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. It is assumed that the meeting referred to would be of three days' duration and that the United Nations would provide assistance of interpretation and translation services.

4. The Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions would represent the United Nations at the meeting. A Professional staff member from his Office would assist in the preparation and holding of the meeting. It is expected that the United Nations staff would need to arrive two days prior to the meeting and one day after the meeting for follow-up consultation.

D. Additional requirements at full cost

5. The estimates of conference-servicing requirements for the meeting are based on the following assumptions:

(a) The meeting would be of three days' duration, with two meetings daily;

(b) Arabic, English and French would be the working languages of the meeting. The United Nations would provide interpretation into English and French, on the understanding that the League of Arab States would provide interpretation services into Arabic;

(c) Pre-session documentation of 30 pages and post-session documentation of 12 pages would be prepared in New York; in-session documentation would consist of 10 pages; all would be provided in Arabic, English and French;

(d) Meeting servicing would be provided by the United Nations Office at Geneva.

On that basis, conference-servicing costs are estimated at \$41,400 at full cost (see annex for breakdown).

6. The travel and subsistence costs of the United Nations substantive staff attending the meeting are estimated at \$6,300.

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E. Potential for absorption

7. It is expected that the travel and subsistence costs for attendance by United Nations substantive staff could be absorbed from within existing appropriations for travel on official business under section 1B, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions.

F. Request for additional appropriation

8. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.10/Rev.1, conference-servicing requirements would arise which are estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$41,400. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

Notes

1/ A/38/299 and Corr.1, sect. V.

2/ A/38/6, para. 1.93.

Annex

Estimated costs for conference-servicing

	\$	\$
Pre-session documentation (30 pages; A,E,F)	17 000	
Meeting servicing (6 meetings; E,F)	8 700	
In-session documentation (10 pages; A,E,F)	2 600	
Post-session documentation (12 pages; A,E,F)	<u>7 300</u>	35 600
Travel and subsistence of Conference Service staff (4 interpreters, 3 revisers)		<u>5 800</u>
TOTAL		<u>41 400</u>

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