



General Assembly

Distr.: General
1 December 2015

Original: English

Seventieth session

Fifth Committee

Agenda items 134 and 69 (a)

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Rights of indigenous peoples

Rights of indigenous peoples

Programme budget implications of draft resolution

[A/C.3/70/L.26/Rev.1](#)

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

I. Introduction

1. At its 55th meeting, on 24 November 2015, the Third Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/70/L.26/Rev.1](#) without a vote. A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution ([A/C.3/70/L.109](#)) was before the Committee.

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 4 and 19 of draft resolution [A/C.3/70/L.26/Rev.1](#), the General Assembly would:

(a) Reaffirm the decision to convene a high-level event to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to be held during the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, in 2017, and that the event would take stock of the achievements of the preceding 10 years and assess the remaining challenges for the rights of indigenous peoples, and also consider the further follow-up to the Declaration, including the consideration of a third International Decade;

(b) Request the President of the General Assembly to conduct, within existing resources, timely, inclusive, representative and transparent consultations with Member States, indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions from all



regions of the world, and existing relevant mechanisms of the United Nations, on the possible measures necessary, including procedural and institutional steps and selection criteria, to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them, and also request the President to prepare a compilation of the views presented during the consultations, including good practices within the United Nations regarding indigenous peoples' participation, which would form the basis for a draft text to be finalized and adopted by the Assembly during its seventy-first session.

III. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

3. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 (see [A/69/6/Rev.1](#)), and section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (see [A/70/6 \(Sect. 2\)](#) and Corr.1).

IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 4, it is understood that all issues related to the high-level event, including its date, format, organization and scope, are yet to be determined. Accordingly, in the absence of modalities for the meeting, it is not possible at the present time to estimate the potential costs implications of the requirements for meetings and documentation. Upon the taking of a decision on the modalities, format and organization of the meeting, the Secretary-General would submit the relevant costs of such requirements in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Furthermore, the date of the meeting would have to be determined in consultation with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

5. Pursuant to operative paragraph 19 of the draft resolution, it is understood that the consultations would use the meeting entitlements of the General Assembly, which would not meet in parallel. Therefore, there would be no additional meeting implications for the proposed consultations by the President of the Assembly. With regard to the request for documentation, this would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document of 8,500 words in all six languages. This would entail additional requirements in the amount of \$50,900 for documentation services in 2016.

V. Financial implications of the proposal

6. To implement the additional workload, there would be additional conference-servicing requirements of \$50,900 for 2016 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2016-2017

7. No provisions have been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the implementation of the activity requested in operative paragraph 19 of the draft resolution. At the current stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the section of the proposed programme budget for 2016-2017 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the amount of \$50,900 be provided through an additional appropriation for 2016-2017.

VII. Contingency fund

8. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures were proposed that exceeded the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

9. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution [A/C.3/70/L.26/Rev.1](#), additional resource requirements in the amount of \$50,900 would arise under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The amount of \$50,900 would require an additional appropriation for 2016-2017 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

10. **With regard to the reference “within existing resources” contained in operative paragraph 19, the Secretariat drew the attention of the Third Committee to provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B and subsequent resolutions, the latest of which was resolution 68/246, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.**