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Agenda item 12

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAR DEL PLATA
ACTION PLAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS WATER CONFERENCE

Administrative and financial implications of the draft
resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.93/Rev.1

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

1. In paragraph 3 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.93/Rev.1, the General Assembly would decide to hold a special one-day meeting, during its thirty-fifth session, to launch formally the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, 1981-1990, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/31 and on the understanding that requirements for documentation set out in that resolution would be reduced.
2. It has been indicated to the Secretariat by the sponsors of the draft resolution that this reduced documentation would be limited to (a) the comprehensive report called for in paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/31, which would be 60 pages long; (b) a summary of the regional reviews of the preparatory activities, 32 pages; and (c) a summary of the reports of donors of bilateral assistance and of organizations providing multilateral assistance, 32 pages. On the basis of the assumption that these pre-session documents would be translated, reproduced and distributed in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, the related cost is estimated at \$73,800 should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution.
3. This estimate is made on a full-cost basis which assumes no capacity for absorption on the part of conference services. It will be revised in the context of a consolidated statement of total conference servicing requirements to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session.

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4. It should be mentioned that the above documentation, which would be available at the time of the one-day session and would serve the purposes of the launching of the Decade, will also be utilized by Governments, intergovernmental bodies and organizations during the course of the Decade. Thus, those documents are not being prepared solely, or even mainly, for the one-day meeting.

5. No other cost would be incurred against the regular budget of the Organization in connexion with the implementation of the draft resolution, should the Assembly adopt it, on the understanding (a) that the one-day meeting would be part of the regular schedule of meetings of the General Assembly during its thirty-fifth session and thus that no separate conference servicing arrangements would be required, and (b) that travel costs to New York of representatives attending the special meeting would be borne by their respective Governments.
