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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.114

Twenty-third report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/34/73) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.87.

2. The Advisory Committee was informed by the representatives of the Secretary-General that draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.87 had been superseded by draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.114, which was adopted by the Second Committee at its 56th meeting, on 8 December 1979. In this connexion, the Advisory Committee was further informed that the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.114 were identical with those of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.114.

3. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.114, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General "to intensify, through the redeployment of existing posts from Headquarters to the regional commissions, the development and application of the decentralization measures" contemplated in his reports on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (A/34/649, E/1979/81 and A/33/410/Rev.1) and in Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/64.

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4. The administrative and financial implications of carrying out the redeployment are grouped in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/34/73), under two headings: (a) decentralization of activities and resources from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs to the regional commissions; and (b) decentralization of activities and resources from the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to the regional commissions.

5. The Secretary-General describes the administrative and financial implications of the decentralization from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs to the regional commissions in paragraph 6 of his statement, in which he proposes to provide one additional P-4 post to each of the regional commissions through redeployment from the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. The impact on sections 6, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the proposed programme budget is estimated by the Secretary-General as follows:

(in United States dollars)

Section 6: Department of International Economic and Social Affairs - reduction of five P-4 posts	(472,300)
Section 10: Economic Commission for Europe - addition of one P-4 post	123,300
Section ll: Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific - addition of one P-4 post	85,900
Section 12: Economic Commission for Latin America - addition of one P-4 post	104,700
Section 13: Economic Commission for Africa - addition of one P-4 post	92,400
Section 14: Economic Commission for Western Asia - addition of one P-4 post	86,900
Net addition to the proposed programme budget for 1980-1981	20,900

6. The administrative and financial implications of the decentralization from the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to the regional commissions are analysed in paragraphs 7 to 10 of the Secretary-General's statement. In paragraph 7, the Secretary-General proposes to transfer funds within section 24 (regular programme of technical co-operation) from the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to the regional commissions to finance one regional adviser post at the L-5 level in each commission. As can be seen from paragraphs 8 to 10 of the Secretary-General's statement, the resources to be so transferred within section 24 would amount to \$517,100. As this would involve a transfer of funds within the same section, no action by the General Assembly would be required.

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7. As regards paragraph 1^4 of the statement (A/C.5/34/73) and the annex thereto, the representatives of the Secretary-General have informed the Advisory Committee that the information contained in paragraph 1^4 and in the annex does not form part of the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.114 and that the Secretary-General is not requesting any of the staff or financial resources mentioned in paragraph 1^4 and the annex.

8. In this connexion the Advisory Committee notes the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/34/73, para. 2) that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) will be reviewing the policy and programme issues relating to the distribution of tasks and responsibilities between the regional commissions and other United Nations units, programmes and organs concerned. The Secretary-General goes on to state that, should any administrative and financial implications result from this review by CPC, they would be reported to the General Assembly, for its approval, at the thirty-fifth session.

9. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.114, there would be need to adjust the estimates for sections 6, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the proposed programme budget for 1980-1981, already approved by the Fifth Committee in first reading, in the manner summarized in paragraph 5 of this report.
