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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

**Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation
of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation
of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development
of Small Island Developing States**

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.67](#)

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

1. At its 41st meeting, on 11 December 2013, the Second Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.67](#) without a vote. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document [A/C.2/68/L.54](#).

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 14, 15 and 20 of draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.67](#), the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide that:

(i) The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee would be held over three days, from 24 to 26 February 2014, to discuss the objectives and substantive theme of the Conference and organizational and procedural matters, including the rules of procedure, and to elect the Bureau;



- (ii) The final meeting of the Preparatory Committee would be held over five days, from 23 to 27 June 2014, to finalize the preparatory work for the Conference, including the outcome document;
- (b) Also decide that all meetings of the Preparatory Committee would be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York;
- (c) Decide that the Conference should be organized in accordance with the organization of work set forth in annex II to the resolution, namely that:
 - (i) The Conference would consist of an opening and a closing and a total of six plenary meetings;
 - (ii) The Conference would include six multistakeholder partnership dialogues, held in parallel with the plenary meetings.

II. Relationship of the requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

3. The requested activities relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, section A, Conference management, New York, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015 ([A/67/6/Rev.1](#)), and section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 ([A/68/6 \(Sect. 2\)](#)).

III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee would be held over three days, from 24 to 26 February 2014, comprising six meetings (1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon) with interpretation in all six official languages, which would constitute an addition to the calendar of meetings of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. Furthermore, two pre-session documents, to be issued in all six official languages, would be added to the workload of the Department.

5. The final meeting of the Preparatory Committee would be held over five days, from 23 to 27 June 2014, comprising 10 meetings (1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon) with interpretation in all six official languages, which would constitute an addition to the calendar of meetings of the Department. Furthermore, two documents (1 in-session and 1 post-session), to be issued in all six official languages, would be added to the workload of the Department.

6. The Conference would be held over four days, from 1 to 4 September 2014, comprising eight meetings (1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon) with interpretation in all six official languages, which would constitute an addition to the calendar of meetings of the Department. Furthermore, four documents (2 pre-session, 1 in-session and 1 post-session) to be issued in all six official languages, would be added to the workload of the Department.

7. Multi-stakeholder partnership dialogues would be held in parallel with the Conference over four days from 1 to 4 September 2014, comprising six meetings with interpretation in all six official languages, which would constitute an addition to the calendar of meetings of the Department.

8. The related conference-servicing costs associated with interpretation and the translation and publication of associated documentation in all six official languages have not been included in the programme of work, and thus no provisions therefore are included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

9. In accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution [40/243](#), which stipulates that United Nations bodies may hold sessions away from their established headquarters when a Government issuing an invitation for a session to be held within its territory has agreed to defray, after consultation with the Secretary-General as to their nature and possible extent, the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved, the Government of Samoa would need to defray the additional costs directly or indirectly involved.

IV. Estimated resource requirements for the biennium 2014-2015

10. Additional conference-servicing requirements of \$762,600 for 2014 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would be required under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015. The details of these additional requirements are as follows:

(United States dollars)

<i>Additional requirements in 2014</i>	
Interpretation	334 200
Pre-session documentation	202 800
In-session documentation	101 200
Post-session documentation	124 400
Total	762 600

V. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2014-2015

11. No provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the activities requested under operative paragraphs 14, 15 and 20 of draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.67](#). At present, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium.

VI. Contingency fund

12. 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 are proposed that exceed 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.

VII. Summary

13. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.67](#), additional resources in the total amount of \$762,600 would arise under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015. The amount would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require that an additional appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015 be approved by the General Assembly.
