



Distr.: General 12 December 2019

Original: English

Seventy-fourth session Agenda items 135 and 128

Proposed programme budget for 2020

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him

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Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/74/L.20

Thirty-first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2020

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/74/13) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/74/L.20. During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 9 December 2019.

2. The requests contained in the draft resolution are set out in paragraph 1 of the statement, and include the following:

(a) Under the terms of operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to reappoint the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to Assembly resolution 72/252 to continue to review the information received and possible new information made available by Member States, including from individuals and private entities, to assess its probative value and to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted;

(b) Under the terms of operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly before the end of its seventy-fifth session on progress made.





3. The activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented, including those of the Eminent Person for the period from January 2020 to June 2021, are set out in paragraphs 3 to 5 of the statement of the Secretary-General. The Advisory Committee notes the report of the Eminent Person and the findings indicated therein (A/73/973, paras. 10-15).

II. Resource requirements

4. In paragraph 6 of his statement, the Secretary-General indicates that, to implement the above-mentioned requests, additional requirements in the amount of \$145,700 would arise under the proposed programme budget for 2020 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination. The Secretary-General also indicates that additional requirements in the amount of \$207,300 would be included in the proposed programme budget for 2021 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, in the amount of \$97,600 and under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, in the amount of \$109,700. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information regarding the consultancy fees and travel requirements for the Eminent Person and one Special Assistant for work not to exceed six work-months each for the period from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021, and for three consultants, who would provide specialized expertise for up to 45 days.

III. Conclusion

5. In paragraph 7 of his statement, the Secretary-General indicates that no provisions have been made in the proposed programme budget for 2020 for the implementation of the activities requested under operative paragraphs 1 and 5 of the draft resolution and that it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the year. The Secretary-General states that it is therefore necessary that one-time resource requirements in the amount of \$145,700 be provided through an additional appropriation for 2020.

6. Taking into account its observations set out above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should the Assembly adopt draft resolution A/74/L.20, additional resource requirements in the amount of \$145,700 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, would arise under the proposed programme budget for 2020, and require an additional appropriation for 2020 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.