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Agenda item 134

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013

Revised Estimates Resulting from Resolutions and Decisions of the Human Rights Council at its 16th, 17th and 18th Sessions and its 15th, 16th and 17th Special Sessions (A/66/586)

Programme Budget Implications on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar (A/C.5/66/10)

Programme Budget Implications on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto (A/C.5/66/11)

Programme Budget Implications on the Oceans and the Law of the Sea (A/C.5/66/12)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Ms. María Eugenia Casar
Assistant Secretary General, Controller

16 December 2011

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

I have the pleasure to introduce the following reports under consideration today; Revised Estimates Resulting from Resolutions and Decisions of the Human Rights Council at its 16th, 17th and 18th Sessions and its 15th, 16th and 17th Special Sessions (A/66/586), Programme Budget Implications on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar (A/C.5/66/10), Programme Budget Implications on the

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto (A/C.5/66/11), Programme Budget Implications on the Oceans and the Law of the Sea (A/C.5/66/12).

Revised Estimates Resulting from Resolutions and Decisions of the Human Rights Council at its 16th, 17th and 18th Sessions and its 15th, 16th and 17th Special Sessions (A/66/586)

The report before you details the additional resource requirements, resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Human Rights Council adopted in 2011 at its 16th, 17th and 18th sessions and its 15th, 16th and 17th special sessions.

The General Assembly, in accordance with its resolutions 63/263 and 65/281, preferred that all financial implications emanating from the resolutions and decisions of the Human Rights Council during the particular year should be presented to the Fifth Committee in the annual report, including those emanating from the Council's September session. The present report details additional budgetary requirements estimated at \$11 million for the biennium 2010-2011 and \$13.3 million for the biennium 2012-2013 resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth regular sessions, and, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth special sessions held in 2011.

It is proposed to meet an amount of some \$11 million from the resources already appropriated for the biennium 2010-2011 and will be reported in the second performance report of the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. The amount of \$13.3 million envisaged, for the biennium 2012-2013 is proposed to be considered in the context of contingency fund for the biennium 2012-2013. It is also proposed to establish 6 new posts (1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2/1 and 2 General Service (Other Level)) under section 24, Human rights of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013. The costs of these six new posts are included in the total requirements of \$13.3 million. In summary, the General Assembly is requested:

- a) To endorse meeting additional 2010-2011 requirements of \$11 million from within the resources appropriated under the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 as reported in the second performance report for the biennium 2010-2011;
- b) To approve additional appropriation of \$13.3 million including \$5.8 million under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, \$7.4

million under section 24, Human rights, and \$144,300 under section 28 E, Administration , Geneva, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 in the context of the contingency fund for the biennium 2012-2013; and

- c) To approve establishment of 6 new posts (1 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2/1 and 2 General Service (Other Level)) under section 24, Human Rights of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013. In this connection, the amount of \$178,800 would be required under section 37, Staff assessment of the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

Programme Budget Implications on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar (A/C.5/66/10)

Under the terms of operative paragraph 32 of draft resolution A/C.3/66/L.55/Rev.1, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to, inter alia, continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on the situation of human rights, the transition to democracy and the national reconciliation process with the Government and the people of Myanmar.

The estimated costs of continuing the role of the good offices of the Secretary-General to support that process for the year 2012 amount to \$1.2 million, excluding staff assessment. This includes a staffing complement of 1 USG-level Special Adviser to be engaged on a “when-actually-employed” basis, 2 P-4 and 1 P-3 Political Affairs Officers and 1 GS (Other level) administrative assistant, as well as other operational requirements.

For the purpose of presenting the overall level of resource requirements for all special political missions, these requirements have been included in the report of the Secretary-General on the budgets for SPM for 2012.

Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.55/Rev.1, there would be requirements in the amount of \$1.2 million under section 3, Political affairs, which will be charged against the provision for special political missions for the biennium 2012-2013, and \$157,600 under section 37, Staff assessment, to be offset by corresponding amount under income section 1, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

Approval for these requirements is being sought in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council contained in document A/66/354/Add.1.

Programme Budget Implications on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto (A/C.5/66/11)

In accordance with rule 153 of the rules and procedures of the General Assembly, a statement of programme budget implications contained in document A/C.3/66/L.58 was before the Third Committee when it adopted the draft resolution A/C.3/66/L.29/Rev.1 at its 44th meeting.

Under the terms of paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/C.3/66/L.29/Rev 1, the General Assembly would decide to authorize for the Committee an additional week of meeting time per year to be used consecutive to an existing regular session, bearing in mind the requirements of the Committee for reasonable accommodation, and without prejudice to the ongoing reform aimed at strengthening the treaty body system. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities would meet in Geneva for one additional week in 2012 and 2013, respectively, in order to address the reports awaiting consideration.

No provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 for the activities requested under paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/C.3/66/L.29/Rev.1. At the current stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/66/L.29/Rev.1, additional resources in the total amount of some \$3.0 million would be required, including \$213,600 under section 24, Human rights; \$2.8 million under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management; and \$8,800 under section 29E, Administration, Geneva, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013. This would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require additional appropriation for the biennium 2012-2013 to be approved by the General Assembly.

Programme Budget Implications on the Oceans and the Law of the Sea (A/C.5/66/12)

Under the terms of operative paragraphs 63 and 64 of draft resolution A/66/L.21, the Assembly would request the Secretary-General to, among other things, to allocate appropriate and sufficient resources to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea in OLA to provide adequate services and assistance to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, including through the establishment of additional posts to reinforce the GIS, legal and administrative support to the Commission.

Further, under the terms of operative paragraphs 36, 66, 168, 208, 231 and 245 of draft resolution A/66/L.21, the Assembly would request the Secretary-General to convene in New York meetings of the States Parties to the Convention, the Commission, and various associated Working Groups dealing with related issues, as well as plenary meetings at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly.

The estimated requirements for strengthening the capacity of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea pursuant to paragraphs 63 and 64 of draft resolution would amount to \$815,800. These requirements would cover the cost of three new posts, including one P-5 GIS Officer, one P-4 Legal Officer and one GS/OL Administrative/IT Assistant, as well as post-associated operational costs.

No additional resources would be required for conference services related to the meetings referred to in other operative paragraphs of the draft the resolution mentioned earlier, since all the meetings have already been included in the calendar of conference and meetings.

Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/66/L.21, additional resources in the amount of \$815,800 would be required. Of this amount, \$537,000 would be required under section 8, Legal affairs, \$192,100 under section 29D, OCSS, and \$86,700 under section 37, Staff assessment to be offset by equal amount under income section 1, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

