

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/68/L.70 ENTITLED "External debt sustainability and development"

1. The present statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
2. In operative paragraph 27 of draft resolution A/C.2/68/L.70, the General Assembly would decide to convene at its 69th Session a Special Joint Meeting of the Second Committee of the General Assembly and the ECOSOC to consider lessons learned from debt crises and the ongoing work on sovereign debt restructuring and debt resolution mechanisms, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, building on the report prepared by the Secretary General, and resulting in a summary.
3. With regard to meetings requirements, the Second Committee and the ECOSOC are entitled to hold meetings on an "as required" basis. The Special Joint Meeting of the Second Committee of the General Assembly and the ECOSOC contained in operative paragraph 27 will use the meetings entitlement of the Second Committee or the ECOSOC. Hence, there will be no meetings implications. However, the date of the meeting will have to be determined in consultation with the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management.
4. Furthermore, it is anticipated that the request contained in operative paragraph 27 for documentation will constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management of one document of 8,500 words to be issued in all six languages. This would entail additional requirements in the amount of \$50,900 for documentation services in 2014.
5. While no provision for the requested activity has been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015, all possible efforts would be made to absorb the additional requirements of \$50,900 from within the existing resources under Section 2 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.
6. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution A/C.2/68/L.70, additional requirements of \$50,900 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. However, all possible efforts would be made to absorb the additional requirements of \$50,900 from within the existing resources under Section 2 and to report thereon in the context of the performance report for the biennium 2014-2015.