

**Statement of the Chairman**  
**Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)**

**1 December 2014**

**Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions  
adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its 2014 session**

*(ACABQ report: A/69/609; related Secretary-General's report: A/69/535)*

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its 2014 session.

During its 2014 session, the Council adopted a number of resolutions and decisions in which it authorized relevant functional commissions, standing committees or expert bodies to undertake additional activities, including those for which no provisions had been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 and which would have an impact on the estimates of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

According to the Secretary-General, the additional requirements for the biennium 2014-2015 arising as a result of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council are estimated at \$56,300 of which \$5,400 would be absorbed within resources approved under budget section 9, Economic and social affairs (the Advisory Committee has no objection to the absorption) and the remaining \$50,900 related to budget section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social affairs and conference management, would be a charge against the contingency fund for the biennium 2014-2015.

The estimated additional requirements of \$50,900 relate to the implementation of resolution 2014/12 which requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council. According to the Secretary-General, this would constitute an addition of one document (8,500 words to be issued in all six official languages) to the documentation workload of DGACM.

The Advisory Committee recalls, however, that in a recent report of the Secretary-General, the cost of producing a document of the same volume (8,500 words) in all six official languages was estimated at \$35,100. Therefore, the Committee finds no reason why the additional documentation arising from the decisions adopted by ECOSOC cannot be produced at the same cost. Moreover this amount represents just 0.04 per cent of the uncommitted allotment balance for 2014 under budget section 2 of the budget. The Advisory Committee has recommended therefore that the additional requirements of up to \$35,100 should be absorbed by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

The Advisory Committee also points out that in this case the cost of producing the document and of the support provided to the ACABQ and the General Assembly for consideration of the revised estimate may be higher than the amount of resources requested.

According to the Secretary-General, additional requirements would also arise during the biennium 2016-2017 related to the support of the United Nations to the resident coordinator system (\$13 million) and to the provision of technical assistance and interpretation services to the Group of Experts on Geographical Names during its twenty-ninth session (\$89,500). According to the Secretary-General, these requirements would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

Mr. Chairman,

The Committee stresses that the General Assembly has not yet considered the cost-sharing arrangement for the resident coordinator system and the related UN contribution. Therefore, any additional resource requirements related to the UN share of the resident coordinator system should be submitted alongside the proposed cost-sharing arrangement for consideration and approval by the General Assembly.

As regards the additional requirements of \$89,500 related to the provision of technical assistance and interpretation services to the Group of Experts on Geographical Names, the Advisory Committee will examine the Secretary-General's proposal in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.