

Oral statement by the Secretariat in connection with draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.28 entitled "Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework"

1. The present statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 12 of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.28, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to provide at the seventy-fifth session a report, following broad consultations with Member States, with information on practice and possible options to review the Regulations, taking into account outstanding issues identified by Member States.
3. Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, it is envisaged that the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs would undertake thorough legal research on the practice relating to registration and publication of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter and provide comprehensive legal analysis of possible options available for the General Assembly to review the Regulations. For this purpose, as instructed by the Assembly, broad consultations would need to be conducted with Member States, which may include requests for comments in writing and meetings with delegations. Given that the existing resources of the Treaty Section are fully committed to the timely implementation of its existing mandates in the discharge of the depositary functions of the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties, the preparation of the substantive report above would require additional staffing capacity of a P-3-level Legal Officer for 2020.
4. Furthermore, the request for a report contained in operative paragraph 12 would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document with a total word count of 8,500 words in all six languages starting in 2020.
5. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.28 no additional requirements would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019. Adoption of this draft resolution would result in additional resource requirements in the amount of \$26,000 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management and approximately \$200,000 under section 8, Legal affairs, to be included in the proposed programme budget for 2020.