Thirty-eighth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 46

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF AFRICA

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 7 and 8 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2, the General Assembly would request the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in co-operation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to provide data on the continued development of South Africa's nuclear capability (para. 7) and would request the Secretary-General to provide the necessary support to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to enable it to carry out the task entrusted to it under the present resolution (para. 8).

2. As recalled in the preamble of the draft resolution the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) was requested, under the terms of operative paragraph 4 of resolution 37/100 F "to lend assistance to States and regional institutions which may request it in the context of regional disarmament measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all the States concerned". At the time of the adoption of resolution 37/100 that request was interpreted within the framework of General Assembly resolution 37/99 K which provides inter alia that the "activities of the Institute shall be funded by voluntary contributions from States and public and private organizations" as not having financial implications under the regular budget. It is the understanding of the Secretary-General that the activities referred to in General Assembly resolution 37/99 K include those specifically mandated by the General Assembly, such as the task referred to in operative paragraph 7.

3. Furthermore, it is the understanding of the Secretary-General that the necessary support that he would be requested to provide to the Institute to enable it to carry out the task which would be entrusted to it under the terms of the
draft resolution would be in the form of cooperation offered by the Department for Disarmament Affairs, as requested under operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution. This cooperation would take the form inter alia of the collection, compilation and evaluation of data relating to the subject matter of the draft resolution, in collaboration with relevant authorities in various States, including the nuclear technology exporting countries, as well as international organizations, and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity. The Department would also cooperate in the preparation of the report that the Institute is requested to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

4. To fulfill this responsibility, the Department would require the services of one consultant in the field of nuclear physics and nuclear technology at the P-5 level for a period of six months to undertake technical research, involving travel to various nuclear technology exporting countries, international organizations and the Organization of African Unity, in order to collect, compile and evaluate the relevant data. The related estimated cost of fee and travel of the consultant would amount to $40,500.

5. It is envisaged that there would be a need for translation into English of source material of approximately 100 pages which would amount to $4,600 on a contractual basis.

6. The provisions made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 for the implementation of programme element 3.2 "Studies on disarmament and their follow-up", including a provision of $123,500 for consultant services, have been earmarked for the preparation of four studies on other subjects (see A/30/3, para. 23.20), leaving no room for absorption of the costs stated in paragraph 4 above. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/30/L.67/Rev.2, an additional appropriation of $30,500 would be required for consultancy fee and travel and $4,600 for translation of approximately 100 pages of documentation into English.