Fortieth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda items 57 and 145

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL EXPLOITATION OF OUTER SPACE UNDER CONDITIONS OF ITS NON-MILITARIZATION

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.45/Rev.1

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

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.45/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

   (a) Request the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive study of the various consequences of the militarization of outer space;

   (b) Recommend that the study be prepared on the basis of accessible material, with the assistance of eminent consultant experts of various nationalities appointed by the Secretary-General, and in co-operation with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, taking into account the views expressed and the suggestions made during the discussion of this subject at the fortieth session of the General Assembly.

B. Relationship of proposed requests to approved programme of work

2. The activities proposed would fall under chapter 1, Political and Security Council Affairs, programme 2, Activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs, subprogramme 3, Studies on disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, 1/ and Section 2B, Department for Disarmament Affairs, of the proposed
programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987, 2/ subprogramme 3, Studies on disarmament, which covers the preparation for and execution of various studies requested by the General Assembly.

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General, would prepare the study in two phases.

4. Phase I would consist of the preparation of a summary review of the weapon, technological and legal aspects of the militarization of outer space, which would be prepared by a qualified consultant. Recognizing the significant technological and legal complexities and the fast-developing nature of the subject, it is submitted that the consultant should work in co-operation with a small team of technical advisers representing different disciplines and nationalities. For this purpose, a three-day working seminar of up to six technical advisers from different countries would be organized in early 1986. Conference services would not be required. The outcome of phase I would be a technical paper which would become a part of the study and would be the background for phase II of the exercise.

5. Phase II would consist of a comprehensive assessment of the various consequences of the militarization of outer space. The Secretary-General would appoint a group of 10 consultant experts composed of persons with political or scientific expertise reflecting geographical balance; it would carry out its work in the light of the technical summary prepared during phase I.

6. The Group would hold three sessions in 1986 and 1987 as follows:

   (a) One-week session (7-11 July 1986) in New York;

   (b) Two-week session (19-30 January 1987) in New York;

   (c) Two-week session (early summer 1987) in New York.

7. The Secretary-General would authorize payment of travel costs and subsistence allowance for the experts participating in the sessions.

8. The services of the consultant would be retained throughout both phases of the work and the Department for Disarmament Affairs would also make full use, as appropriate, of existing expertise within the United Nations system such as the Outer Space Affairs Division of the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). Regarding the latter, full advantage would be taken of the research project at present being carried out by UNIDIR on the subject of disarmament and problems concerning outer space.
D. Modifications required in the approved programme of work 1986-1987

9. The activities of the proposal involving the permanent staff of the Department for Disarmament Affairs fall under section 2B, subprogramme 3.2, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987: no modifications to that programme element are required.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

10. It is envisaged that the related conference services would be provided for the sessions on the following assumptions:

(a) The sessions would be of 5 to 10 working days, as appropriate, with one meeting in the morning and one in the afternoon;

(b) Interpretation would be provided in the six official languages of the General Assembly;

(c) There would be a total of 340 pages (eight documents) of documentation to be issued in the six official languages of the General Assembly.

The related conference-servicing costs (see annex for breakdown) on a full-cost basis are estimated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One-week session in New York in July 1986</td>
<td>$120,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-week session in New York in January 1987</td>
<td>$203,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-week session in New York in early summer 1987</td>
<td>$355,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$679,100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. The requirements to undertake the activities contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 above are estimated as follows:
(a) Related travel costs and daily subsistence allowance for 10 consultant experts for a one-week session in New York in 1986 and two two-week sessions in New York in 1987

114 700

(b) Related travel costs, daily subsistence allowance and honorarium for six scientific/legal advisers for a three-day meeting in New York in early 1986

15 000

(c) Consultancy services for 10 work months, including travel and daily subsistence allowance, to attend the sessions of the scientific/legal advisers and expert consultants

62 000

Total

191 700

F. Potential for absorption

12. No programme element under any subprogramme within section 2B, Disarmament affairs activities, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 is proposed for curtailing, postponement or termination to offset the additional costs that would result from the adoption of the draft resolution.

G. Request for additional appropriation

13. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.45/Rev.1, an additional appropriation of $191,700 would be required under section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987. The estimates of conference-servicing costs indicated in paragraph 10 above are provided on the basis of full costing, i.e. on the assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be made available from within existing resources.

Notes


2/ Ibid., Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/40/6), vol. I.
Annex

ESTIMATED COST OF CONFERENCE-SERVICING OF THREE SESSIONS OF THE
GROUP OF CONSULTANT EXPERTS (DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/40/L.45/Rev.1)
NEW YORK, 7 TO 11 JULY 1986, 19 TO 30 JANUARY AND EARLY SUMMER 1987)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>First session</th>
<th>Second session</th>
<th>Third session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-session documentation (60 pages of one document, A,C,E,F,R,S)</td>
<td>74 000</td>
<td></td>
<td>77 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>104 900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting servicing (Interpretation: A,C,E,F,R,S)</td>
<td>41 600</td>
<td>87 600</td>
<td>87 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-session documentation (140 pages of one document, A,C,E,F,R,S)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>179 900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements of the Office of General Services</td>
<td>5 000</td>
<td>10 600</td>
<td>10 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120 600</td>
<td>203 100</td>
<td>355 400</td>
</tr>
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