Fortieth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 116 and 61 (b)

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIAUM 1986-1987

REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF FELLOWSHIPS ON DISARMAMENT

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.54/Rev.1

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

1. At its 44th meeting, on 20 November 1985, the First Committee adopted by a recorded vote of 127 to 1, with no abstentions, the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.54/Rev.1. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution was before the Committee in document A/C.1/40/L.79.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.54/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to expand the forms of assistance available to Member States under the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme to include training programmes and advisory services in the field of disarmament and security, all the programmes to be consolidated under the Department for Disarmament Affairs, at the appropriate level, bearing in mind the savings that can be made within the existing overall budgetary appropriations for the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme; such advisory services should include the organization of training courses at the regional or subregional level, in co-operation with the Governments/intergovernmental organizations concerned, for the benefit of Government officials whose duties involve the implementation of arms limitation and disarmament measures, as well as the promotion of disarmament efforts;
(b) Further decide that the Secretary-General should make provision for advisory services in the field of disarmament on the basis of requests received from Governments/governmental organizations in accordance with the following policies:

(i) The kind of service to be rendered to Governments/governmental organizations shall be determined by the Governments/organizations concerned in consultation with the Secretary-General;

(ii) The amount of service and the conditions under which it is to be rendered shall be decided by the Secretary-General, with due regard to the needs of States, in particular the developing countries, and in conformity with the principle that the requesting Governments/governmental organizations shall be expected to assume responsibility for a considerable part of the expenses connected with the services rendered, either by making a contribution in cash, or by providing supporting staff services and payment of local costs for the purpose of carrying out the programme;

(iii) The service shall be applicable to any subject in the field of disarmament;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first session on the operations of the fellowship programme and on the implementation of the provisions of the resolution and to develop modalities for implementation of the training programmes and advisory services.

B. Relationship of proposed requests to approved programme of work

3. The activities referred to above would fall under chapter 1, Political and Security Council Affairs, programme 2, Activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs, subprogramme 4, Training in disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 1/ and in section 2B, Department for Disarmament Affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987, 2/ subprogramme 4, Training in disarmament. The objective of subprogramme 4 is to contribute to the training and specialization of national public officials, particularly those from developing countries, to enable them to participate more effectively in international deliberating and negotiating forums and also to provide expertise at the national levels.

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the above draft resolution, it is envisaged that, with regard to "advisory services in the field of disarmament and security", a review of the nature and extent of advisory services which may be requested by Governments and governmental organizations would be undertaken in a first stage in 1986. This review would also cover the possible modalities for the provisions of such advisory services, bearing in mind the provisions of operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 of the draft resolution. A report containing proposals for such modalities
and guidelines would be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-first session.

5. As regards the organization of training courses at the regional or subregional level, a one-week training course would be organized annually on a rotation basis between the regions, for 10 to 15 government officials whose duties involve the implementation of arms limitation and disarmament measures, as well as the promotion of disarmament efforts. It is envisaged that four disarmament experts would be selected to give a series of lectures on disarmament, particularly on issues that are the subject of current deliberations and negotiations.

6. With regard to the administrative aspects referred to in operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, it should be mentioned that the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme is currently headed at the P-5 level. Any impact which an expansion of that programme might have on responsibilities attached to the post will be reviewed in accordance with the established practice and in the light of experience at the time of the preparation of future proposed programme budgets.

D. Modifications required in the approved programme of work 1986-1987

7. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, a new programme element would be added to subprogramme 4, Training in disarmament, of section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987, as follows:

4.2 Training courses at the regional or subregional level

Output: one week training course organized annually (1986, 1987)

E. Additional requirements at full cost

8. It is estimated that the one-week training course to be convened annually in each region on a rotation basis would entail the following costs, taking into account that the Governments concerned would be expected to make contributions towards the costs:

$ 

(a) Travel and daily subsistence allowance for one week for the Co-ordinator and one secretary ($10,500 each year) 21 000

(b) Fee for 10 lectures at $225 per lecture ($2,250 each year) 4 500

(c) Travel and daily subsistence for four lecturers to the region ($19,100 each year) 38 200

/...
F. Potential for absorption

9. No programme element under the subprogramme within section 2B, Disarmament Affairs Activities, is proposed for curtailment, postponement or termination to offset the additional costs that would result from the adoption of the draft resolution.

G. Request for additional appropriation

10. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/40/L.54/Rev.1, an additional appropriation of $63,700 would be required under section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987.

Notes


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