

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr. LIMITED E/ESCWA/26/6(Part I)/C/Add.1 21 May 2010 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Twenty-sixth session Beirut, 17-20 May 2010

Item 7 (a-iii) of the provisional agenda

MANAGEMENT ISSUES

STREAMLINING THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Upgrade the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues to a division and establish an intergovernmental committee concerned with emerging issues and development in times of crisis

Addendum

Programme budget implications of the proposed upgrade of the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues (ECRI) into a division

The programme budget implications of the proposal to upgrade the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues (ECRI) into a division are detailed below.

	Amount in US\$ (thousands)	
Objects of expenditure	2010-2011	2012-2013
Posts	418,900	1,633,400
Consultants and experts	13,000	72,000
Staff travel	10,000	45,000
Other expenditure	21,500	18,000
Total	US\$463,400	US\$1,768,400

Biennium 2010-2011

Posts: An additional US\$418,900 will be required in 2011 for the new professional posts (one D-1, one P-5 and one P-3) and one local level post being proposed. This amount reflects the delayed recruitment factor for new posts, currently set at 50 per cent for professional posts and 65 per cent for local level posts.

Consultants and experts: An additional amount of US\$13,000 will be required. Provision for consultants (US\$5,000) would secure specialized expertise not available within ESCWA for a study on enhancing public sector optimization in the ESCWA region and modalities of intervention. Provision would be required for

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travel of expert panelists (US\$8,000) for the meeting of the intergovernmental committee on emerging issues and development under crisis.

Staff travel: An additional amount of US\$10,000 will be required for the participation of staff at the coordination meetings with the League of Arab States on peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and with the Organization of the Islamic Conference on development in conflict-affected countries.

Other expenditure: An amount of US\$21,500 will be required to cover recurrent communication costs for the new posts (US\$2,500) and office supplies (US\$1,000), and non-recurrent costs for office furniture (US\$10,000) and office automation equipment (US\$8,000).

Biennium 2012-2013

Posts: An amount of US\$1,633,400 will be required to reflect the full impact of the three new professional and one local level posts if approved in 2011, based on standard salary costs for 2011.

Consultants and experts: An additional amount of US\$72,000 will be required. Provisions for consultants (US\$30,000) would secure specialized expertise not available within ESCWA for studies as follows: (a) addressing root causes of conflict in the region and enhancing peacebuilding initiatives; (b) policy briefs on good governance, human capital and peacebuilding; (c) policy briefs on the impact of instability on socio-economic development in Yemen and the Sudan; (d) mainstreaming conflict management best practice in public institutions to enhance essential service delivery; and (e) a feasibility study on increasing performance in the public sector through modern applications.

One expert group meeting would be convened on conflict resolution and management in crisis settings (US\$34,000), and provision would be necessary for the travel of expert panelists for the meeting of the intergovernmental committee on emerging issues and development under crisis (US\$8,000).

Staff travel: Provisions of US\$45,000 will be required to support staff travel to participate at the annual session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration, meetings of the United Nations country teams in Yemen, the Sudan, Iraq and Palestine, and coordination meetings with the League of Arab States on peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference on development in conflict-afflicted countries. Provisions are also included to cover staff travel for consultations with member countries on policies and strategies to address the structural prevention of conflict, as well as data gathering in each of the conflict-affected countries in the region.

Other expenditure: An additional amount of US\$18,000 will be required to cover recurrent communication costs for the new posts (US\$10,000), office supplies (US\$4,000) and replacement of office automation equipment (US\$4,000).