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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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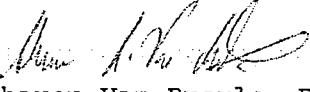
TO: Mr. Eric Tistouret
A: Secretary of the Human Rights Council

DATE: 27 September 2007

REFERENCE:

THROUGH:

S/C DE:


FROM: Sharon Van Buerle, Director
DE: Programme Planning and Budget Division, OPPBA

SUBJECT: Oral Statement of programme budget implications arising from draft
OBJET: resolution A/HRC/6/L.17/Rev.1 of the Human Rights Council

I would be grateful if the text of the attached oral statement could be read and distributed prior to the adoption of draft resolution A/HRC/6/L.17/Rev.1, entitled "The Social Forum".

cc: Ms. Matsuura-Mueller
Mr. Ward

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT
RESOLUTION A/HRC/6/L.17/REV.1 ENTITLED "THE SOCIAL FORUM"

1. This statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 4, 5, 5 (c), 9 and 14 of draft resolution A/HRC/6/L.17/Rev.1, the Human Rights Council, would:

(i) Decide also that the Social Forum shall continue meeting every year, and request that the next meeting of the Social Forum be held during 2008 in Geneva on dates suitable for the participation of representatives of United Nations Members States and of the broadest possible range of other stakeholders especially from developing countries [...];

(ii) Decide that the Social Forum will meet for three working days [...];

(iii) Decide that the Social Forum may devote one day to an interactive debate with relevant thematic procedures mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council on issues related to the topics of the Social Forum, and to formulating conclusions and recommendations to be presented to relevant bodies through the Human Rights Council;

(iv) Request also the High Commissioner for Human Rights to facilitate the participation in the 2008 Social Forum, to assist the Chairperson-Rapporteur as resource persons, of up to four relevant Human Rights Council thematic procedures mandate-holders, in particular the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty and the independent expert on human rights and international solidarity;

(v) Request the Secretary-General to provide the Social Forum with all the services and facilities necessary to fulfill its activities, and also request the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the necessary support to facilitate the convening and proceedings of the Social Forum.

3. Should the draft resolution be adopted by the Human Rights Council, the total cost of \$195,800 for the biennium 2008-2009 will be required for conference-services under

Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Affairs and Conference Management and Section 28E, Administration Geneva, to be provided for the meetings of the Social Forum for three working days per annum called for in operative paragraphs 4 and 5. It is also estimated that a total amount of \$56,600 for the biennium 2008-2009 will be required for travel and daily subsistence allowance of four Human Rights Council thematic procedures mandate-holders to participate in the Social Forum called for in operative paragraphs 5(c) and 9 under Section 23, Human Rights. The total estimated requirements for the biennium 2008-2009 are as follows:

	US dollars
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and Conference Management	\$ 192,000
Section 23, Human Rights	\$ 56,600
Section 28E, Administration - Geneva	\$ 3,800
Total	\$ 252,400

4. Resource requirements for the two-day annual meetings of the Social Forum as established by the former Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights for the biennium included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, consisting of conference-servicing requirements and daily subsistence allowance payments for the ten experts of the Social Forum, are as follows:

Proposed programme budget for biennium 2008-2009

	US dollars
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and Conference Management	\$ 139,600
Section 23, Human Rights	\$ 41,600
Section 28E, Administration - Geneva	\$ 2,800
Total	\$ 184,000

5. The provisions of \$184,000 outlined in paragraph 4 above which have been included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 are proposed to offset the estimated requirements of \$252,400 for the Social Forum, outlined in paragraph 3 above. It is estimated therefore that an additional amount of \$68,400 would be required for the

biennium 2008-2009 to provide for conference servicing and the travel and daily subsistence allowance of four thematic procedures mandate holders, as follows: under section 2, \$52,400; under section 23, \$15,000; and under Section 28E, \$1,000.

6. Although it is anticipated that an additional amount of \$68,400 would be required for the biennium 2008-2009 under Sections 2, 23 and 28E, no additional resources will be requested at this juncture, in light of the continuing review by the Human Rights Council of its subsidiary machinery in response to General Assembly resolution 60/251. The consolidated statement of requirements arising from the continuing review by the Human Rights Council and potential absorptive capacity from reduced requirements arising from the amended programme of work under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 will be reported to the General Assembly.