

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT
DECISION A/HRC/3/L.2 PREPARATIONS FOR THE DURBAN REVIEW
CONFERENCE

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

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution A/HRC/3/L.2, the Human Rights Council would decide:

(i) To establish a Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference which shall be open to the participation of all Member States of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies and also with the participation of observers in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly; and

(ii) Also that the Preparatory Committee shall hold an organizational session of one week in May 2007, at the level of personal representatives of the Heads of State or Government or other appropriate high-level representatives designated for this purpose by Governments and two substantive sessions of ten working days each during 2007 and 2008 in Geneva

2. Should the draft resolution be adopted by the Human Rights Council, requirements would arise to implement the activities called for in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 to provide for conference services and general temporary assistance for the biennium 2006-2007, estimated at \$441,600 and for the biennium 2008-2009 estimated at \$303,300 as follows:

2006-2007:		<i>US dollars</i>
Section 2:	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	377,700
Section 23:	Human rights	54,000
Section 28E:	Administration in Geneva	9,900
Total		441,600
2008-2009:		<i>US dollars</i>
Section 2:	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	242,700
Section 23:	Human rights	54,000
Section 28E:	Administration in Geneva	6,600
Total		303,300

3. No provisions have been included under the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 for these additional activities, therefore, additional resources will be required under: Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (\$377,700); Section 23, Human Rights (\$54,000) and Section 28E, Administration, Geneva (\$9,900).

4. With regard to the requirements for the biennium 2008-2009, they are indicative and will be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

5. It will be recalled that under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities must be deferred to a later biennium.

6. The additional provisions cannot be met from the contingency fund as other activities in the biennium 2006-2007 charged against the fund will have exhausted the fund during the main part of the 61st session of the General Assembly. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities under sections 2, 23, and 28E of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 that could be curtailed, deferred, terminated or modified in order to meet the additional requirements of \$441,600, although preliminary review leads the Secretariat to assume that some absorption of the estimated requirements is possible. The Secretariat will seek to identify areas from which resources can be redeployed to meet the requirements arising from the draft resolution in the biennium 2006-2007. At the time the General Assembly reviews at its 61st session the question of the revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Human Rights Council it is anticipated that the Secretariat would be in a position to inform the General Assembly on how to meet the additional requirements.