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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**WORKING GROUP ON AGEING**

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**FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES PROPOSED IN THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF  
WORK**

**Note by the secretariat**

*Summary*

This note provides information on the financial resources needed to carry out the programme of work (ECE/WG.1/2008/3). Working Group members are expected to pledge funding to meet those needs.

## **FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES PROPOSED IN THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK**

1. In the ECE secretariat, the work related to ageing is carried out by the Population Unit in the Environment, Housing and Land Management Division. In addition to the two professional posts provided by the regular budget, an Associate Expert funded by Germany joined the unit this October. These resources do not allow fully implement the activities as reflected in the programme of work (ECE/WG.1/2008/3). Therefore, extrabudgetary resources are needed to carry out those activities.

### **I. EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**

2. At the León Ministerial Conference on Ageing, Governments welcomed voluntary contributions from ECE member States in support of international cooperation for promoting the implementation of the Regional Strategy. Since the Working Group is a main actor in this international cooperation, countries are invited to provide voluntary contributions to its programme of work.

3. Voluntary contributions should aim at fair sharing of the burden, stable and predictable funding, transparency, accountability and sound financial management. To ensure collective responsibility for the process, all countries are invited to contribute.

4. Table 1 outlines the requirements for extrabudgetary resources, beyond the assigned resources from Germany for the post of an Associate Expert. The column entitled "Pledged" includes amounts for which pledges exist (see paras 11 and 12). The column "Required" includes the outstanding requirements. Working Group members are expected to pledge funding for meeting these requirements.

5. Building on the experience and results in monitoring the implementation of the Regional Strategy over the last five years, the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (European Centre Vienna, ECV) has expressed readiness to continue its cooperation with ECE in this area. Table 1 includes, among others, the resource requirements for the activities proposed to be carried out by ECV.

6. The resources for policy briefs and analysis of intergenerational relationships would cover part of the time of an additional extra-budgetary staff member at the ECE secretariat.

7. The resources for developing indicators and the web site would cover the cost of expert workshops and project staff at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (European Centre Vienna, ECV). The project staff at ECV is also involved in preparing the policy briefs.

8. The resources for policy briefs and web site could cover, among others, their translation from English into one other language.

9. Financial assistance for participation in meetings of the Working Group pertains to participation cost of four invited experts and delegates from countries with GDP per capita below 3000 U.S. dollars (currently ten). The latter criterion is used in determining eligibility for support by all ECE intergovernmental bodies in the areas of Environment, Housing and Land Management. The Working Group is invited to apply it.

10. The United Nations charges an administrative cost of 13% for processing the contributions. Based on special agreements, different percentages pertain to contributions from EU and UNFPA.

Table 1. Estimated extrabudgetary resource requirement 2009-2010 in U.S. dollars.

Activity, <i>cost items</i>	Total	Pledged	Required
Policy briefs: <i>project staff at ECE and ECV, consultancy, translation</i>	83,000	73,000	10,000
Indicators of achievement: <i>project staff at ECV, two expert workshops</i>	121,000	91,000	30,000
Web site <i>monitoringRIS</i> : <i>project staff at ECV, translation</i>	56,000	47,000	9,000
Capacity development workshop	80,000	80,000	–
Country road map 1: <i>consultancies, field missions, translation, publication</i>	40,000	35,000	5,000
Country road map 2	40,000	–	40,000
Analysis of intergenerational relationships: <i>project staff at ECE, consultancy</i>	23,000	23,000	–
Financial assistance for participation in meetings of the Working Group ( <i>see para 9</i> )	64,000	–	64,000
<b>Total direct cost</b>	<b>507,000</b>	<b>349,000</b>	<b>158,000</b>
Administrative cost ( <i>see para 10</i> )	44,000	23,000	21,000
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>551,000</b>	<b>372,000</b>	<b>179,000</b>

## II. PLEDGES

11. The United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) will organize, with funds from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and in cooperation with the UN regional commissions, capacity development workshops on ageing in all UN regions, two of them in the ECE region. One such workshop will take place already this December (not included in the draft programme of work or in Table 1). The other workshop in the ECE region could be prepared so that it corresponds to agreements on capacity development reached in the Working Group and included in the programme of work as proposed in its current draft.

12. The Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the EU Commission has expressed readiness to provide a grant for the follow-up activities to the León Ministerial Conference on Ageing. As reflected in Table 1, this grant would cover most of the extra-budgetary resource requirements related to

- (a) preparation of policy briefs,
- (b) developing indicators of achievement in two domains,
- (c) redesign an update of the monitoring web site,
- (d) preparation of a road map for mainstreaming ageing in one country, and
- (e) analytical work on intergenerational relationships.

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