POSSIBLE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES TO CONCLUDE A CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL SALE OF GOODS: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At its eighth session which was held in January 1977 the UNCITRAL Working Group on the International Sale of Goods requested the Secretariat to prepare a statement of financial implications for a possible diplomatic conference on the international sale of goods (A/CN.9/128, para. 171) and to present this statement to the tenth session of UNCITRAL scheduled for 23 May to 17 June 1977.

2. The request made encompasses the following four alternatives:

(a) A diplomatic conference dealing solely with a draft convention on the international sale of goods.

(b) A diplomatic conference dealing with two separate draft conventions. The first on the international sale of goods and the second on the formation of contracts for the international sale of goods.

(c) A diplomatic conference dealing with three separate draft conventions. The first on the international sale of goods, the second on the formation of contracts for the international sale of goods and the third on the validity of contracts for the international sale of goods.

(d) A diplomatic conference dealing with one draft convention, either on the formation of contracts for the international sale of goods or on the validity of contracts for the international sale of goods.

3. It is estimated that the implementation of the proposal indicated in the preceding paragraph would have the following financial implications:

77-09492
First alternative: a conference dealing solely with a draft convention on the international sale of goods, $1,201,900

4. It is assumed that two meetings a day would be held for the first week, four meetings a day for the second and third weeks and three meetings a day for the fourth week. The cost of servicing such meetings in six languages would be as follows:

A. Pre-session documentation (estimated at 500 pages), $176,000

\[
\begin{align*}
(i) & \text{ Translation} & $84,700 \\
(ii) & \text{ Revision} & $45,100 \\
(iii) & \text{ Typing} & $25,100 \\
(iv) & \text{ Reproduction and distribution} & $21,200 \\
\end{align*}
\]

B. In-session, $397,200

\[
\begin{align*}
(i) & \text{ Interpretation} & $182,600 \\
(ii) & \text{ Translation (400 pages)} & $89,000 \\
(iii) & \text{ Revision} & $46,700 \\
(iv) & \text{ Typing} & $33,500 \\
(v) & \text{ Conference officer and documents clerks} & $2,600 \\
(vi) & \text{ Telecommunication engineering and security personnel} & $32,200 \\
(vii) & \text{ Reproduction and distribution of documents} & $10,600 \\
\end{align*}
\]

C. Summary records

\[
\begin{align*}
(i) & \text{ Translation} & $198,400 \\
(ii) & \text{ Revision} & $48,000 \\
(iii) & \text{ Typing} & $95,700 \\
(iv) & \text{ Reproduction and distribution of documents} & $67,200 \\
\end{align*}
\]
D. Post-session documentation (500 pages), $219,400

(i) Translation 84,700
(ii) Revision 45,150
(iii) Typing 25,000
(iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 64,500

Second alternative: a conference dealing with two separate draft conventions, $1,686,900

5. The estimate is based on the assumption that the Conference would hold four meetings a day for the first week, six meetings a day for the second week and four meetings a day for the third and fourth weeks. The cost of servicing such meetings in six languages would be as follows:

A. Pre-session documentation (estimated at 700 pages), $244,800

(i) Translation 118,600
(ii) Revision 63,200
(iii) Typing 33,400
(iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 29,600

B. In-session, $557,100

(i) Interpretation 253,500
(ii) Translation (600 pages) 133,500
(iii) Revision 70,100
(iv) Typing 51,000
(v) Conference officer and documents staff 3,400
(vi) Telecommunication engineering and security personnel 31,500
(vii) Reproduction and distribution of documents 14,100

/.../
C. **Summary records, $579,700**

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C. **Post-session documentation, $305,300**

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**Third alternative: a conference dealing with three separate draft conventions, $1,839,200**

6. It is assumed that the conference would hold four meetings per day for the first week, six meetings per day for the second week and four meetings per day for the third and fourth weeks. The estimated cost for such meetings in six languages would be as follows:

A. **Pre-session documentation (estimated at 700 pages), $285,200**

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B. **In-session, $647,200**

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<td>(iii) Revision</td>
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</table>
(iv) Typing
(v) Conference officer and documents clerk
(vi) Telecommunication engineering and security personnel
(vii) Reproduction and distribution of documents

C. Summary records, $672,200
   (i) Translation 325,000
   (ii) Revision 78,700
   (iii) Typing 155,100
   (iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 113,400

D. Post-session documentation, $354,600
   (i) Translation 135,500
   (ii) Revision 72,300
   (iii) Typing 43,600
   (iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 103,200

Fourth alternative: a conference dealing with one draft convention, $817,300

7. It is assumed that the conference would hold three meetings a day for the first week and four meetings a day for the second week. The estimated cost of such meetings would be as follows:

A. Pre-session documentation (250 pages), $78,600
   (i) Translation 42,400
   (ii) Revision 22,600
   (iii) Typing 13,600
   (iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 10,600
B. In-session, $348,200

(i) Interpretation 149,800
(ii) Translation 68,900
(iii) Revision 36,400
(iv) Typing 42,600
(v) Conference officers and documents clerks 15,000
(vi) Telecommunication engineering and security personnel 29,600
(vii) Reproduction and distribution of documents 5,900

C. Summary records, $270,900

(i) Translation 132,300
(ii) Revision 31,700
(iii) Typing 70,600
(iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 36,300

D. Post-session documentation (275 pages), $119,600

(i) Translation 46,600
(ii) Revision 24,700
(iii) Typing 12,600
(iv) Reproduction and distribution of documents 35,700

8. The costs indicated above are based on the 1977 rates and on the assumption that no existing resources would be available for the conference. As the exact schedule of the conference is yet to be decided, it is not possible at this stage to determine to what extent such conference servicing costs would be met by then existing resources. The Secretary-General intends to revise the estimates at a future date when further details of the conference are known more precisely.