

Oral Statement on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.55, entitled "Fourth  
United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries"

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

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 11 and 12 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would:

"(a) Request the President of the General Assembly to organize, within existing resources, one day of informal interactive hearings with civil society actors, in due time before the second session of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee, in consultation with Member States, in particular the least developed countries, the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee, Civil Society Steering Committee and the representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as appropriate; and

(b) Invite the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the Conference to jointly preside over the informal interactive hearings and request the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the hearings, to be issued as a General Assembly document prior to the Conference".

3. Pursuant to operative paragraphs 11 and 12, it envisaged that the informal interactive hearings would require meeting services for a total of two meetings with simultaneous interpretation from and into all six official languages and documentation services for 5,000 words for the summary of the hearings to be translated and issued into all six official languages.

4. As regards the requirements for meetings services, it is determined that these two meetings could utilize the resources allotted to the General Assembly, provided that the General Assembly itself and its working groups would not meet in parallel.

5. As regards the requirements for documentation, it is estimated that the costs for processing the documentation in-house would be \$30,200 under section 2 General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management. It is expected that these costs would be absorbed.

6. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.55, no financial implications would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.

7. Attention is drawn also to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B, of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and

budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The attention of the Second Committee is also drawn to paragraph 67 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (A/54/7), in which the Committee noted that the use of the phrase "within existing resources" or similar language in resolutions had a negative impact on the implementation of activities; therefore, efforts should be made to avoid the use of this phrase in resolutions and decisions.