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**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

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Item 7 (a-ii) of the provisional agenda

**MANAGEMENT ISSUES**
**STREAMLINING THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION**
*Upgrade the Centre for Women in ESCWA to a division*
**Addendum**
**Programme budget implications of the proposed upgrade of the ESCWA  
Centre for Women into a division**

The programme budget implications of the proposal to upgrade the ESCWA Centre for Women into a division are detailed below.

<i>Objects of expenditure</i>	<i>Amount in US\$ (thousands)</i>	
	<i>2010-2011</i>	<i>2012-2013</i>
Posts	399,700	1,556,400
Consultants and experts	58,000	175,000
Staff travel	10,000	30,000
Contractual services	-	20,000
Other expenditure	21,500	18,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>US\$489,200</b>	<b>US\$1,799,400</b>

*Biennium 2010-2011*

**Posts:** An additional US\$399,700 will be required in 2011 for the new professional posts (one D-1, one P-5 and one P-2) and one local level post being proposed. This amount reflects a delayed recruitment factor for new posts, currently set at 50 per cent for professional posts and 65 per cent for local level posts.

**Consultants and experts:** An additional amount of US\$58,000 will be required. Provisions for consultants (US\$20,000) would secure specialized expertise not available within ESCWA for two feasibility studies requested by the Commission, one on the observatory and regional early warning systems and another creating an index for gender and development, specific to the Arab region in order to identify and analyse the nature of the gender gap. Two expert group meetings (US\$38,000) would be convened in 2011 for peer review of these two feasibility studies.

**Staff travel:** An additional amount of US\$10,000 will be required to support engagement by the Director and staff of the Centre to various regional and subregional processes, including national and United Nations country team meetings, and other events in the field of gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women.

**Other expenditure:** An amount of US\$21,500 will be required to cover recurrent communication costs for the new posts (US\$2,500) and office supplies (US\$1,000), and non-recurrent costs for office furniture (US\$10,000) and office automation equipment (US\$8,000).

*Biennium 2012-2013*

**Posts:** An amount of US\$1,556,400 will be required to reflect the full impact of the three new professional and one local level posts if approved in 2011, based on standard salary costs for 2011.

**Consultants and experts:** An additional amount of US\$175,000 will be required. Provisions for consultants (US\$80,000) would secure specialized expertise not available within ESCWA for eight studies as follows: (a) aligning national legislation with international commitments; (b) three subregional analyses on the socio-economic situation of women in the region; (c) two subregional studies on the role of microfinance in empowering women; (d) a regional report on the trafficking of women in the ESCWA region; and (e) lessons learned from previous regional experience in efforts to eradicate violence against women.

Five expert group meetings (US\$95,000) would be convened on the following topics: (a) evaluation and identification of lessons learned from previous experience and efforts to eradicate violence against women; (b) best practice in partnerships between civil society and governments in the field of the empowerment of women; (c) developing regional policy recommendations on human trafficking, especially as it relates to women; (d) addressing gender stereotypes in the Arab media; and (e) the role of microfinance in empowering women in the ESCWA region.

**Staff travel:** Provisions of US\$30,000 will be required to support the engagement of the Centre in various regional and subregional processes, including missions by staff to member countries to attend national meetings and United Nations country team meetings, and to participate in subregional and regional meetings in the fields of gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women.

**Contractual services:** Provisions of US\$20,000 will be required to cover the cost of external printing of the report on human trafficking in the ESCWA region and the three subregional analyses of the socio-economic situation of women in the region.

**Other expenditure:** An additional amount of US\$18,000 will be required to cover recurrent communication costs for the new posts (US\$10,000), office supplies (US\$4,000) and replacement of office automation equipment (US\$4,000).

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