Oral statement by the Secretariat in connection with E/2023/15/Add.1, Section IA draft resolution I on Economic Commission for Africa resolution 2023/10 "Reinforcing the role of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in assisting members of the Economic Commission for Africa in strengthening development planning and improving their capacity to formulate and manage effective public sector policies for structural transformation and sustainable development"

- 1. The present statement is made in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.
- 2. This Oral Statement is distributed in connection with E/2023/15/Add.1, Section IA, draft resolution I, which requests the Economic and Social Council to endorse resolution 2023/10 of the Economic Commission for Africa and accordingly request the Secretary-General to increase the support provided to the Economic Commission for Africa, in order to reinforce the role played by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in assisting members of the Commission in strengthening development planning and improving their capacity to formulate and manage effective public sector policies for structural transformation and sustainable development.
- 3. Detailed cost estimates, and their underlying assumptions for the requirements, are provided in the annex to this statement.
- 4. Should the Economic and Social Council approve draft resolution I, additional programme budget appropriations for the year 2024, estimated at \$1,086,900 (net of staff assessment) would be requested in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of ECOSOC adopted during its 2023 session. An additional amount estimated at \$105,400 would arise under section 36, Staff assessment and would also be requested in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of ECOSOC adopted during its 2023 session, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment. A similar level of resources would be requested annually from 2025 in the context of the respective proposed programme budget.

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Annex

- 1. Under the terms of draft resolution I, ECOSOC would endorse resolution 2023/10 of the Economic Commission for Africa and accordingly request the Secretary-General to increase the support provided to the Economic Commission for Africa, in order to reinforce the role played by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning.
- 2. The background to the request and relevant mandates are set out in resolution 2023/10 of the Economic Commission for Africa, which is annexed to draft resolution I, in report E/2023/15/Add.1, Section IA. In particular, in Operating Paragraph 1 of resolution 2023/10, the Council of Ministers requested the Secretary-General to increase the support provided to the Economic Commission for Africa, in order to reinforce the role played by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning in assisting members of the Commission in strengthening development planning and improving their capacity to formulate and manage effective public sector policies for structural transformation and sustainable development.
- 3. Based on the terms of the request contained in draft resolution I to reinforce the role played by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning to strengthen development planning and to improve member States capacity to formulate and manage effective public sector policies for structural transformation and sustainable development, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning would reorient its training delivery services from in situ to online services.
- 4. This new orientation would respond to the pandemic context and the increasing requests from member States, including to offer opportunities to train more women. To ensure the effectiveness and consolidation of digital training services, the Institute would need to deploy more interactives services such as gamification and augmented virtual reality to increase and sustain the retention rate of the trainees. This would require specialized technical content, and quality reviewer personnel.
- 5. Accordingly, in order to implement the mandate contained in draft resolution I, the following additional regular budget resources would be required annually, starting in 2024:
 - a) General Temporary Assistance (\$678,900) based in Dakar, Senegal:
 - One P-4 (eLearning Content Developer) to create e-learning digital content; design technical deliverables; and develop e-learning content strategies by analyzing current trends and ensure the effectiveness and accuracy of the contents.

- One P-3 (Training Officer) to coordinate the design, development, delivery and evaluation of training, learning and development programmes for members States.
- One P-3 (Programme Management Officer) to undertake corporate policy and strategic planning, programme and project management related activities as well as monitoring, research and analytical work.
- One National Officer (Communications Officer) to develop and implement effective communication strategies to deliver the Institute's messages to its internal and external stakeholders.
- One National Officer (Monitoring and Evaluation Officer) to monitor and ensure high quality and timely inputs, and to ensure that the subprogramme maintains its strategic vision so that its activities result in the achievement of its intended outputs.
- One National Officer (Multimedia and Infographic Officer) to support the eLearning team with the design and provision of multilingual multimedia knowledge products.
- b) Consultants (\$68,000): Consultancy (B level for 60 days and the A level for 10 days) to provide specialized expertise to design and deliver training on macroeconomic modelling.
 - c) Contractual services (\$50,000):
 - Develop communications materials, partner with national and international media through audio, visual, print materials, and
 - Provide translation, interpretation, and printing cost of document outputs from workshops and conferences.
 - d) Travel of Staff (\$20,000):
 - Trips totaling 6 working days by three staff to various locations in Africa to provide technical support and participate in professional networks and development related to macroeconomic policy research,
 - Trips totaling 6 working days by two staff to undertake missions to develop partnership and attend regional and international conferences,
 - Trips totaling 6 working days by three staff to convene the Africa Macroeconomic Day.
 - e) Grants and Contributions (\$270,000) as follows:

Purpose	Estimated requirements (US\$)
Provide fellowships for 3 fellows on macroeconomic modelling and climate modeling	50,000
Convene Africa Macroeconomic Day involving ECA- YEN scientific committee; high level panels, policy makers, legislators, negotiators and other experts	100,000
Annual Operating Contributions to the UN Common House related to the proposed positions	120,000
Total	270,000

- 6. An additional amount estimated at \$105,400 would arise under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from Staff Assessment.
- 7. Total resource requirements by budget section for 2024 and each year thereafter are presented in the table below:

Section 18, Economic and Social Development in Africa	
Other Staff Costs (GTA)	\$678,900
Consultants	\$68,000
Travel of Staff	\$20,000
Contractual Services	\$50,000
Grant and Contributions	\$270,000
Subtotal, Section 18	\$1,086,900
Section 36, Staff Assessment	
Staff Assessment	\$105,400
Subtotal, Section 36	\$105,400
 Total	\$1,192,300