



OPCW

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NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DRAFT REVISED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET OF THE OPCW FOR 2025



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INTRODUCTION

The Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2024–2025 (EC-104/CRP.1/Rev.1, dated 9 October 2023) was submitted by the Executive Council (the Council), together with its recommendation, to the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) (EC-104/DEC.2, dated 12 October 2023) and adopted by the Conference on 29 November 2023 (C-28/DEC.9, dated 29 November 2023). The document included budget estimates for 2024 and 2025. Consistent with biennial budgeting principles and Financial Regulation 3.3, during the first year of the biennium, the projected budget for the second year of the biennium—in this case, 2025—is reviewed for any adjustments that may be required in light of changes in programmatic or budgetary assumptions.

The primary considerations of the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) in its review of the Programme and Budget for 2025 concern firstly how to address the impacts of bringing the OPCW Provident Fund accounts under direct Secretariat management following a decision by the external service provider to discontinue pension management services; secondly, the pending physical security requirements of the OPCW Main Building, such as the new perimeter fence and guardhouses; and thirdly, replenishment of the special funds that are used for major capital replacement.

At the same time, the Secretariat is stepping up its efforts to explore the implications of artificial intelligence (AI) for the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) and the operations of the Organisation. In its initial phase, this deliberative process is being supported via voluntary contributions and with a focused application of certain regular budgetary resources, for example by way of enhanced or revised job descriptions for some posts. Going forward, the Secretariat expects that any substantial resource requirements identified during this assessment period will be included in the draft 2026–2027 biennium budget as it evolves over the next year.

The financing for the 2025 draft budget revision includes proposals for the timely and effective reallocation of the 2022 cash surplus, which was generated primarily due to late payments of assessed contributions by some States Parties. These proposals for States Parties' consideration in this regard envision a reduction in the assessed contribution requirement in 2025, as well as funding required for the pending physical security requirements and replenishment of the special funds supporting the Major Capital Investment Plan (MCIP).

The revised budget estimates and related proposals for 2025 are contained in this document. In line with the usual schedule, following meetings with States Parties in September, the revised draft 2025 budget will be presented for consideration by the Council at its 107th Session, to be held from 8 to 11 October 2024, with a view to achieving a Council recommendation for approval by the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session, to be held from 25 to 29 November 2024.

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OVERVIEW

FIGURE 1: OVERVIEW OF THE DRAFT REVISED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET OF THE OPCW FOR 2025

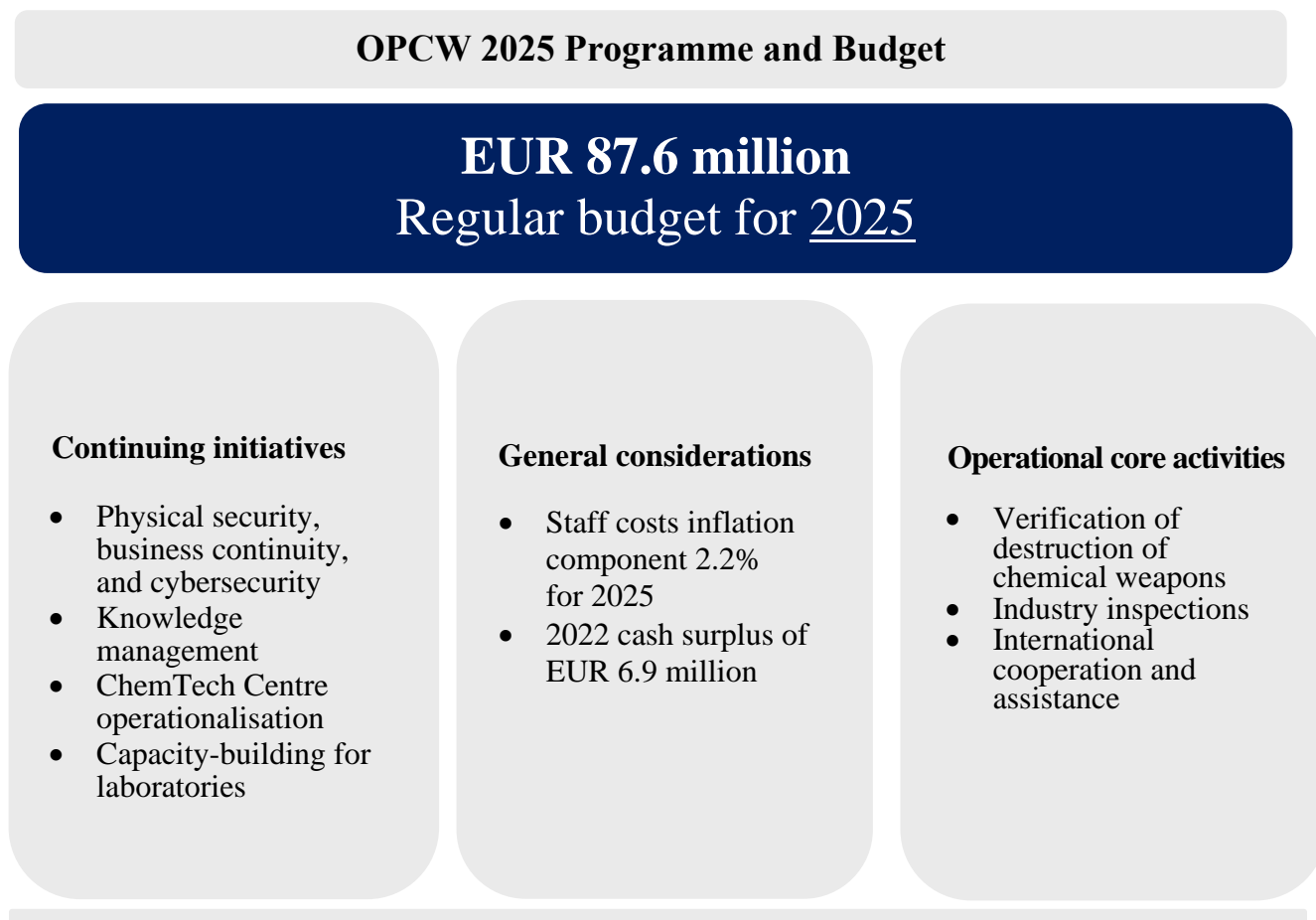
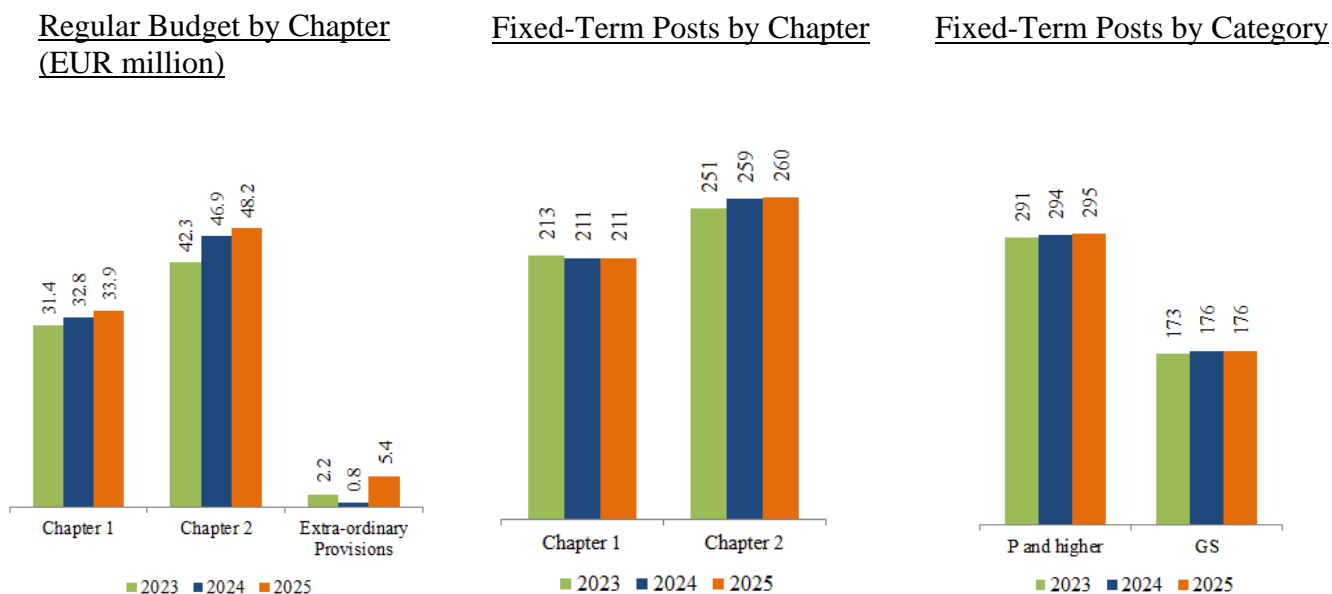


FIGURE 2: OVERVIEW OF THE REGULAR BUDGET AND FIXED-TERM POSTS FOR 2023, 2024, AND 2025



1. DRAFT REVISED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2025

- 1.1 In the preparation of the Draft Revised OPCW Programme and Budget for 2025, the Director-General has carefully considered the proposals of the Secretariat's Budget Steering Committee, noting the impact of managing the OPCW Provident Fund "in-house", and of pending capital replacement requirements.
- 1.2 The Draft Revised OPCW Programme and Budget for 2025 includes some discrete adjustments in the Administration Programme to accommodate the direct management of the Provident Fund. The revision does not require an additional funding request, as the adjustments have zero overall budgetary impact in the Administration Programme. This revision includes:
 - (a) upgrading the Treasury Officer position from P2 to P3, upgrading an Administrative Assistant position from GS4 to GS5, and the upgrade of an Accounting Assistant position from GS4 to GS5, all within the Budget and Finance Branch, and totalling EUR 64,400; and
 - (b) reduction of insurance costs in the amount of EUR 64,400 in the Office of the Director of Administration.
- 1.3 For 2025, the Director-General proposes a total of EUR 82,132,117, with no changes to the Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 programmes compared to the originally approved Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2024–2025 (C-28/DEC.9), while including an increase of EUR 5,380,603 in extraordinary provisions whose funding is proposed to be secured from the reallocation of the 2022 cash surplus.
- 1.4 For 2025, the draft revised budget amounts to EUR 82,132,117, representing an increase of 3.1% (EUR 2,442,673) compared to 2024, with the exclusion of the extraordinary provisions. Assuming that the utilisation of the 2022 cash surplus in the amount of EUR 1,492,745 as direct income is authorised by States Parties as proposed, the assessed contributions in 2025 would be reduced by 1.8% compared to the originally approved Programme and Budget of the OPCW for the 2024–2025 biennium (C-28/DEC.9).

**TABLE 1: REGULAR BUDGET BY CHAPTER PROGRAMMES IN EUR
(INCLUDING EXTRAORDINARY PROVISIONS)**

	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Revised 2025 Budget	Change vs. 2024	Change %	Change vs. 2025	Change %
Programme 1: Verification	10,517,880	10,741,133	10,741,133	223,253	2.1%	-	-
Programme 2: Inspections	22,306,072	23,149,511	23,149,511	843,439	3.8%	-	-
Total Chapter 1 programmes	32,823,952	33,890,644	33,890,644	1,066,692	3.2%	-	-
Programme 3: ICA	7,831,683	8,142,691	8,142,691	311,007	4.0%	-	-
Programme 4: Support to the Policy-Making Organs	5,855,952	5,962,733	5,962,733	106,781	1.8%	-	-
Programme 5: External Relations	2,389,041	2,393,867	2,393,867	4,826	0.2%	-	-
Programme 6: Executive Management	12,028,273	12,237,990	12,237,990	209,718	1.7%	-	-
Programme 7: Administration	18,760,542	19,504,191	19,504,191	743,649	4.0%	-	-
Total Chapter 2 programmes	46,865,491	48,241,473	48,241,473	1,375,981	2.9%	-	-
Total Chapter 1 and 2 programmes	79,689,443	82,132,117	82,132,117	2,442,673	3.1%	-	-
Cybersecurity, business continuity, and physical infrastructure security	625,000	-	3,000,000	2,375,000	>100%	3,000,000	>100%
Major Capital Investment Fund	-	-	1,300,603	1,300,603	>100%	1,300,603	>100%
Special Fund for the OPCW Equipment Store	175,778	-	805,000	629,222	>100%	805,000	>100%
Special Fund for Activities Related to Designated Laboratories and Laboratory Equipment	-	38,054	313,054	313,054	>100%	275,000	>100%
Total extraordinary provisions	800,778	38,054	5,418,657	4,617,879	>100%	5,380,603	>100%
Total budget	80,490,221	82,170,171	87,550,774	7,060,553	8.8%	5,380,603	6.5%

TABLE 2: REGULAR BUDGET BY OPERATIONAL AND SUPPORT PROGRAMMES IN EUR (INCLUDING EXTRAORDINARY PROVISIONS)

	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Revised 2025 Budget	Change vs. 2024	Change %	Change vs. 2025	Change %
Programme 1: Verification	10,517,880	10,741,133	10,741,133	223,253	2.1%	-	-
Programme 2: Inspections	22,306,072	23,149,511	23,149,511	843,439	3.8%	-	-
Programme 3: ICA	7,831,683	8,142,691	8,142,691	311,007	4.0%	-	-
Total operational programmes	40,655,635	42,033,334	42,033,334	1,377,699	3.4%	-	-
Programme 4: Support to the Policy-Making Organs	5,855,952	5,962,733	5,962,733	106,781	1.8%	-	-
Programme 5: External Relations	2,389,041	2,393,867	2,393,867	4,826	0.2%	-	-
Programme 6: Executive Management	12,028,273	12,237,990	12,237,990	209,718	1.7%	-	-
Programme 7: Administration	18,760,542	19,504,191	19,504,191	743,649	4.0%	-	-
Total support programmes	39,033,808	40,098,782	40,098,782	1,064,974	2.7%	-	-
Total operational and support programmes	79,689,443	82,132,117	82,132,117	2,442,673	3.1%	-	-
Cybersecurity, business continuity, and physical infrastructure security	625,000	-	3,000,000	2,375,000	>100%	3,000,000	>100%
Major Capital Investment Fund	-	-	1,300,603	1,300,603	>100%	1,300,603	>100%
Special Fund for the OPCW Equipment Store	175,778	-	805,000	629,222	>100%	805,000	>100%
Special Fund for Activities Related to Designated Laboratories and Laboratory Equipment	-	38,054	313,054	313,054	>100%	275,000	>100%
Total extraordinary provisions	800,778	38,054	5,418,657	4,617,879	>100%	5,380,603	>100%
Total budget	80,490,221	82,170,171	87,550,774	7,060,553	8.8%	5,380,603	6.5%

2. PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FUNDING

2.1 The total income required for the OPCW to finance its planned activities in 2025 is EUR 87,550,774. In this revised budget proposal, the required financing would be from the following sources: assessed annual contributions, with a reduction of 1.8% compared to the originally approved Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2024–2025; a portion of the already reallocated 2021 cash surplus and a proposed reallocation of the 2022 cash surplus; reimbursements of verification costs (Articles IV and V of the Convention); and interest earned on holdings in bank accounts and other earnings.

TABLE 3: REGULAR BUDGET INCOME FOR 2024–2025

Details	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Revised 2025 Budget	Change vs. 2024	Change %	Change vs. 2025	Change %
Assessed contributions	74,783,427	81,509,499	80,016,754	5,233,327	7.0%	(1,492,745)	(1.8%)
Article IV and V reimbursements	111,893	71,449	71,449	(40,444)	(36.1%)	-	-
Interest and other earnings	150,000	150,000	150,000	-	-	-	-
2021 cash surplus for 2024–2025 Programme and Budget	4,644,123	401,168	401,168	(4,242,955)	(91.4%)	-	-
2022 cash surplus for 2025 Programme and Budget			1,492,745	1,492,745	>100%	1,492,745	>100%
Budget (excluding extraordinary provisions)	79,689,443	82,132,116	82,132,117	2,442,673	3.1%	-	-
2021 cash surplus for MCIF, SAA, SAB	800,778	38,054	38,054	(762,724)	(95.2%)	-	-
2022 cash surplus for SAS, MCIF, SAA, SAB	-	-	5,380,603	5,380,603	>100%	5,380,603	>100%
Total budget	80,490,221	82,170,171	87,550,774	7,060,552	8.8%	5,380,603	6.5%

Assessed annual contributions by States Parties

2.2 States Parties' assessed annual contributions for 2025 total EUR 80,016,754, or 91.4% of total income. Assessed contributions in 2025 are reduced by 1.8% (EUR 1,492,745) compared to the originally approved Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2024–2025 (C-28/DEC.9).

Other income

2.3 In 2025, the OPCW expects to receive EUR 71,449 (0.1%) of total income from the reimbursement of verification costs, which represents a further decrease of 36.1% from the amount projected for 2024. This figure is calculated based on the forecast cost of Article IV- and Article V-related missions.

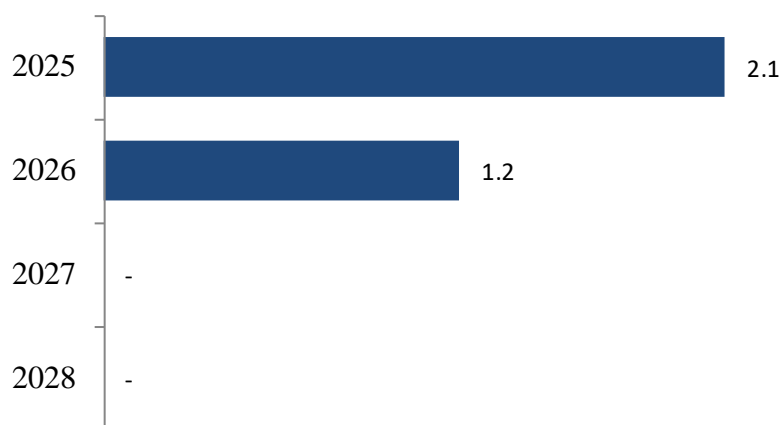
2.4 In 2025, in addition to the portion of the 2021 cash surplus that the Conference already approved for reallocation for this purpose, EUR 1,492,745 of the 2022 cash surplus are proposed to be reallocated as income, representing 1.7% of total income, in order to reduce the increase in assessed contributions.

2.5 The total estimate of other income for 2025 is EUR 150,000 (0.2% of total income). This is the same level as in 2024.

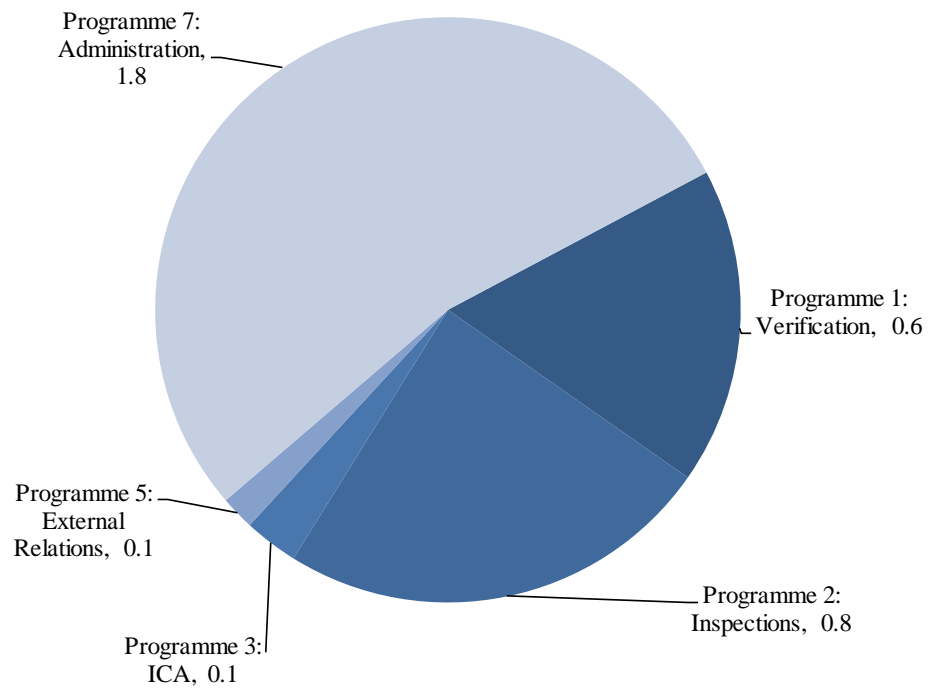
3. MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN

- 3.1 The Major Capital Investment Fund (MCIF) is expected to be financed to a target level of between EUR 1.2 and EUR 2.1 million over the course of the 2024–2025 biennium, in accordance with Conference decision C-28/DEC.9, by considering, inter alia, the transfer of future cash surpluses, if available and when decided by the Conference, and from other resources as determined by the Conference. Upon its establishment, the MCIF was capitalised with an initial EUR 0.6 million in 2020 from a portion of the 2017 cash surplus, a further EUR 0.2 million in 2021 from a portion of the 2018 cash surplus, a further EUR 0.1 million in 2023 from the remaining balance of the COVID-19 Variability Impact Fund, and EUR 0.6 million in 2023 from the 2020 cash surplus. It is proposed to replenish the MCIF with a reallocation of EUR 1.3 million from the 2022 cash surplus that arose primarily due to late payments of assessed contributions by some States Parties.
- 3.2 The following two figures provide an overview of the revised major capital investment requirements included in the MCIP for the period from 2025 to 2028, with the following three caveats: the requirements are higher than the funding currently available in the MCIF; additional requirements are expected to be added incrementally in line with evolving priorities for capital investments, particularly in the context of the preparation of the 2026–2027 biennium budget; and additional funding will be necessary to ensure the viability of this key element of the Organisation’s strategic financing framework.

FIGURE 3: MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN (IN EUR MILLIONS) BY YEAR FOR THE PERIOD 2025–2028



**FIGURE 4: MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN (IN EUR MILLIONS)
BY PROGRAMME FOR THE PERIOD 2025–2028**



3.3 For the period from 2025 to 2028, the projected requirements to be financed via the MCIP have increased as compared to the 2025–2028 plan noted in C-28/DEC.9 for two main reasons: firstly, owing to the revision of estimates regarding MCIF projects as further market information becomes available; and secondly, owing to the inclusion of some additional requirements to replace assets that have passed their useful lives.

4. FIXED-TERM STAFFING OF THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT FOR 2025

Organisational Unit	Professional Grades							General Services Grades			Total Staff
	D-2 and Above	D-1	P-5	P-4	P-3	P-2	Total	GS-6 and GS-7	GS-5 and Below	Total	
Office of the Director	1	-	-	1	1	-	3	1	-	1	4
Declarations Branch	-	-	1	3	9	1	14	1	9	10	24
Industry Verification Branch	-	-	1	8	-	-	9	-	1	1	10
Chemical Demilitarisation Branch	-	-	1	4	-	-	5	1	-	1	6
OPCW Laboratory	-	-	1	7	2	-	10	1	2	3	13
Investigation and Identification Team	1	-	2	1	2	-	6	1	-	1	7
Verification Programme Total	2	-	6	24	14	1	47	5	12	17	64
Office of the Director	1	-	-	1	1	-	3	3	-	3	6
Operations and Technology Support Branch	-	-	1	4	3	1	9	4	15	19	28
Programme Control and Monitoring Branch	-	-	1	2	3	-	6	1	3	4	10
Inspection Team Personnel	-	-	5	34	64	-	103	-	-	-	103
Inspections Programme Total	1	-	7	41	71	1	121	8	18	26	147
Office of the Director	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1	3
Assistance and Protection Branch	-	-	1	3	2	-	6	-	2	2	8
Implementation Support Branch	-	-	1	2	2	-	5	-	3	3	8
International Cooperation Branch	-	-	1	3	3	-	7	-	4	4	11
International Cooperation and Assistance Programme Total	1	-	3	9	7	-	20	-	10	10	30
Office of the Director	1	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	5	6	9
Language Services Branch	-	-	1	6	13	-	20	2	7	9	29
Support to the Policy-Making Organs Programme Total	1	-	1	6	13	2	23	3	12	15	38
Office of the Director	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2
Political Affairs and Protocol Branch	-	-	1	1	2	-	4	1	3	4	8
Public Affairs Branch	-	-	1	1	1	2	5	-	2	2	7
External Relations Programme Total	1	-	2	2	3	2	10	1	6	7	17
Office of the Director-General	1	1	2	-	-	-	4	2	-	2	6
Office of the Deputy Director-General	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	3
Office of Strategy and Policy	1	-	1	4	1	-	7	-	2	2	9
Office of Internal Oversight	1	-	-	2	-	2	5	-	2	2	7
Office of the Legal Adviser	1	-	1	3	2	1	8	1	-	1	9
Office of Confidentiality and Security	-	-	1	2	5	-	8	3	33	36	44
Health and Safety Branch	-	-	1	2	1	-	4	1	2	3	7
Executive Management Programme Total	5	1	7	13	9	3	38	8	39	47	85
Office of the Director, GSS, PS	1	-	1	3	1	1	7	7	15	22	29
Budget and Finance Branch	-	-	1	2	2	3	8	5	7	12	20
Human Resources Branch	-	-	1	1	5	2	9	3	8	11	20
Information Services Branch	-	-	1	2	6	3	12	6	3	9	21
Administration Programme Total	1	-	4	8	14	9	36	21	33	54	90
GRAND TOTAL	12	1	30	103	131	18	295	46	130	176	471

5. ADDITIONAL POSITION MOVES AND CHANGES IN 2025

Division	Subprogramme	Position Name	2023 Grade	2024 Grade	2025 Grade	Revised 2025 Grade	Revised 2025 Action
Administration	Budget and Finance	Treasury Officer	P-2	P-2	P-2	P-3	Upgrade
		Administrative Assistant	GS4	GS4	GS4	GS5	Upgrade
		Accounting Assistant	GS4	GS4	GS4	GS5	Upgrade

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