

COUNCIL

109th Session

RESOLUTION No. 1373

(Adopted on 27 November 2018 by the Council at its 109th Session)

A PLAN FOR THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

The Council,

Recalling document S/19/8 of 5 October 2016 presented by the Administration to the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance at its Nineteenth Session, informing Member States that IOM had approached the Government of Switzerland to review options for addressing the space issue at Headquarters, and that a technical working group had been formed, comprising representatives of the Organization and the host country at the expert level,

Mindful of the Administration's mention at the Twenty-first Session of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance in October 2017 that the technical working group was continuing its work and that a report would be presented in due course,

Noting with appreciation the work of the aforementioned technical working group,

Noting that the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance at its Twenty-second Session examined document S/22/11 of 12 June 2018 on the proposed plans for the IOM Headquarters building, and recognized the office space problem at IOM Headquarters,

Noting also that the Standing Committee, after having also examined document S/23/8 of 4 October 2018, providing an update on the proposed plans put forward by the Administration, considered that the proposal to demolish the existing building and construct a new one on the same site was the most appropriate option,

Welcoming the comments made by Member States and recalling the additional information provided by the Administration during the Twenty-third Session of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance and noting the discussions held at that meeting, as recorded in document S/23/14 of 20 November 2018,

Noting the further and updated details concerning the construction of a new Headquarters building and the revised proposal provided by the Administration in document C/109/10 of 20 November 2018,

Mindful of the financial implications and the clarification provided by the Administration that the interest-free mortgage payments will be covered through savings made by not having to rent additional office space and conference facilities and through future cost-efficiencies,

Bearing in mind the efficiencies to be achieved through new construction technologies, particularly relating to energy conservation and ensuring a sustainable and environmentally friendly working space, and the importance of addressing the issue of accessibility,

Reaffirming the Member States' commitment to support the Administration in providing an appropriate work environment and suitable facilities for IOM staff working at Headquarters,

Recognizing the various steps that must be undertaken and mindful of the time required for the submission and review of a mortgage application,

Taking note of the Administration's explanation that the project costs will be accommodated within existing budget lines and that Member States' assessed contributions will not be increased to cover those costs,

Conscious of the need to establish the appropriate governance and management structures, including using the existing Working Group on Budget Reform for Member State oversight, and the need for regular reporting to each session of the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance and the Council,

1. *Requests* the Director General to prepare and submit a mortgage application in the preliminary estimated amount of CHF 68.1 million for consideration by the Government of Switzerland;

2. *Also requests* the Director General, in consultation with the relevant authorities of the host State, to develop a construction project detailing the requirements, suggested temporary office arrangements, a business continuity plan, the project governance and management structures and any other related matter, as well as the total cost thereof;

3. *Further requests* the Director General to submit to the Council, once such development of the construction project has been completed, for its approval, the final amount of the mortgage application and all the other associated costs.
