



FOR INFORMATION

SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Status report on ongoing renovation activities at the headquarters building

1. The purpose of this document is to provide information about the renovation work that has been completed since the November 2007 session or that is currently in progress.

The interpreters' equipment and booths

2. At its March 2005 session,¹ the Governing Body agreed that urgent repairs and refurbishment should be carried out on the interpreters' equipment and booths in rooms I, VI, VII and XI, estimated at 1,974,000 Swiss francs.
3. At its November 2007 session, the Building Subcommittee noted that rooms VI and VII were operational, while rooms I and XI had not yet been completed.
4. All the work was completed by the end of December 2007. It was carried out within the approved budget of 1,974,000 Swiss francs from the Building and Accommodation Fund. Improvements were made and additional functionalities added to the audiovisual system under the regular budget.

Phase I of the renovation of the headquarters building

5. An international invitation to tender is currently under way for the replacement of two interior service lifts and the repair of the roofs of the main building, the east and west terraces and the underground car parks.
6. The preliminary assessment conducted in August 2006 recommended specific work for each of these items on the basis of a series of on-site tests and analyses.
7. While the specifications were being drafted, additional tests were carried out for each sector of the building affected by this initial phase of the renovation. The results of these

¹ GB.292/9/1.

tests revealed that some of the planned repair work could be scaled down, while other areas would require greater attention and, consequently, resources:

- the roof of the east terrace contains micro-fissures in certain parts of the structure of the building. Fortunately, the results of the additional tests indicate that they do not yet need to be repaired;
- the roof of the west terrace is flooded owing to water leakage from the pond. The pond insulation will therefore have to be renovated during this initial phase of work rather than during a later phase as planned in the preliminary assessment;
- the roof of the main building can be renovated using materials brought in by helicopter, which should result in cost savings;
- only the “Gerber” supports in the car parks need to be changed, while the initial plan was to change all such supports. However, the surfacing of the slabs in the car parks planned for a later phase must be done immediately in order to insulate each level. In fact, much of the damage to the concrete structure of the car parks has been caused by the run-off from parked cars. There must therefore be insulation between the different levels and the water must be drained away.

8. Given the abovementioned modifications, the Office, with the assistance of an external consultant, has identified new repair methods taking due account of the results of the additional analyses carried out. The work estimations have consequently been revised and the budget line of 7.7 million Swiss francs should not be exceeded.
9. The work could begin after the May–June 2008 session of the International Labour Conference and end before the 2009 session of the Conference. Work causing noise pollution should be suspended during the November 2008 and March 2009 sessions of the Governing Body.

Lift for persons with disabilities

10. The turnaround in the results of the additional tests carried out in the underground car parks has led the Office to suspend the tendering procedure for work to construct the lift for persons with disabilities.
11. Once the work in the car parks has begun, a technical assessment will be carried out with an engineering consultant to ascertain whether the position selected for the lift is still compatible with the status of the structure in that part of the building.
12. Given the deadline for the production of this document, the information communicated here will be supplemented orally at the session of the Building Subcommittee.

Geneva, 3 March 2008.

Submitted for information.