

**FOR INFORMATION**

FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Status report on ongoing renovation activities at the headquarters building

1. This document contains information about the renovation work on which the Governing Body has agreed. At its March 2005 session (document GB.292/9/1), it agreed that urgent repairs and refurbishment should be carried out on the interpreters' equipment and booths in Rooms I, VI, VII and XI, on the escalators and on the fire protection equipment in the headquarters building, estimated at 2,334,000 Swiss francs. At its March 2006 session (document GB.295/9/1), it approved the installation of a lift for persons with disabilities, for an estimated cost of 120,000 Swiss francs. At its November 2006 session (document GB.297/11/1(Rev.)), it approved phase I of the renovation of the headquarters building, estimated at 7.7 million Swiss francs.
2. Given the deadline for the production of this document, the information included here will be supplemented orally at the session of the Building Subcommittee.

The interpreters' equipment and booths, the escalators and the fire protection equipment

3. The refurbishment work on the interpreters' equipment and booths began at the end of June and should be completed in November 2007.
4. The work to replace the escalators at the north end of the building began in mid-September and has been completed.
5. The work involving fire protection equipment has been completed (installation of 15 cabinets, replacement of 439 fire extinguishers and training of security staff).

Lift for persons with disabilities

6. In view of technical analyses performed during the invitation to tender phase, structural modifications had to be incorporated into the initial project, which have led to the price of the work initially anticipated being doubled. In the invitation to tender for phase I of the renovation work on the headquarters building, the Office will group the requirements with regard to a lift for persons with disabilities together with the changing of two service lifts

(see below). It should be possible to obtain better prices for three lifts rather than for just one. In the meantime, two additional parking spaces for persons with disabilities have been made available in the P1 car park, bringing to seven the total number of spaces currently available to visitors and staff. Persons unable to drive and who use taxis enter the building through entrance No. 3 located next to the control centre.

Phase I of the renovation of the headquarters building

7. Following an international invitation to tender, the contract was awarded to CB Richard Ellis in June 2007. This international group is represented in Geneva and deals with all property-related matters. In collaboration with the Office, this enterprise is currently drawing up the technical specifications, taking into account the outcome of the preliminary study prepared by the enterprise Techdata for the renovation of the headquarters building. Supplementary inquiries and assessments will help to determine the exact structural status of the headquarters building, and the renovation methods that offer the best value for money will be used.
8. It is recalled that during phase I the following urgent repair work is scheduled for 2007–09:
 - 2.1 million Swiss francs to restore the concrete joints (“Gerber supports”) in the car parks;
 - 3.9 million Swiss francs to redo the roof of the main building and the east and west terraces;
 - 300,000 Swiss francs to refit two service lifts located at the north and south ends of the building, respectively.

In addition to these amounts, 1.4 million Swiss francs have been allocated for fees, additional costs associated with supplementary inquiries and assessments, and incidentals.

Kitchens and restaurants

9. The international invitation to tender is being finalized. It is for the partial refurbishment of the kitchens and restaurants located at the north end of the headquarters building at a cost of around 1.2 million Swiss francs. The cost of the work will be covered by the current operator of the restaurants under its contract with the Office. The work will be done outside the Conference and Governing Body meeting periods, either at the end of the year or in the summer of 2008.

Seats in Room II

10. The invitation to tender is being finalized and more precise information will be provided to the Building Subcommittee orally.

Geneva, 16 October 2007.

Submitted for information.