

## MONUSCO

### **Statement by the Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the Fifth Committee**

*(ACABQ report A/66/545; Secretary-General's report; A/66/375)*

Mr. Chairman,

I have the pleasure to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/66/545) on the proposed financing arrangements for the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), for additional resources of \$74,560,100 to provide logistical support for elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo mandated under Security Council resolution 1991. The additional resources are being requested primarily for the contracting of 20 additional aircraft, at a total cost of \$62,575,100, for the distribution of electoral materials to hubs and sub-hubs throughout the country as well as the transportation of some 3,300 electoral officials and observers.

The Advisory Committee notes that the Secretary-General has recently amended the requirements from 20 to 31 additional aircraft, and underlines the importance of the efficient management of these additional aircraft and their effective integration into the existing Mission aviation capacity in the most efficient manner possible. The Committee expects that the Secretary-General will remain within the total amount of \$62,575,100 proposed for air transportation in support of the elections.

The Advisory Committee is of the view that, at this stage in the implementation of the Mission's budget, it should be possible for MONUSCO to absorb some of the cost for the logistical support to the elections, particularly given the size of its current appropriation. The Committee therefore recommends that the General Assembly appropriate and assess the full amount requested, and that it request the Secretary-General to assess an initial amount of \$37,280,000, and to assess the remaining amount, as required, following a review of the cash position of the Mission.