Financing of the United Nations Operation in Cote D'Ivoire (UNOCI)
Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the
Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)
Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur
(UNAMID)

Statement of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the Fifth Committee

(ACABQ reports A/67/780/Adds. 15, 6, and 7)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on UNOCI, MONUSCO and UNAMID contained in document A/67/780, addenda 15, 6 and 7 respectively.

Starting with the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Secretary-General's proposals for UNOCI for 2013/14, with the exception of a recommended reduction of \$344,000 in the resource estimates for training.

During its consideration of the budget proposals for the Operation, the Advisory Committee was informed that a cost-benefit analysis of the construction of the integrated logistics base in Yopougon had indicated that the project would reach the break-even point in approximately 4 years, when compared to current rental costs. The Committee considers that the possible savings from the establishment of this base may also include efficiencies arising from the consolidation of the full range of logistics support services.

The Committee recommends that the Secretary-General be requested to provide comprehensive information on the projected costs, efficiencies and benefits attributable to the project in the context of the budget for the 2014/15 period.

Regarding the proposed unmanned aerial system, the Advisory Committee does not object to the resources proposed for such a system in the 2013/14 period, without prejudice to any discussions on the use of this technology in the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

Turning to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of \$109,000 to the proposed budget. The reduction is in the resource estimates for

external training for international staff, which the Committee recommends to be maintained at the current level.

In addition, the Advisory Committee notes that the Secretary-General's addendum report lacks a results-based budgeting framework and stresses that this is a critical tool for measuring performance in mandate implementation. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide the revised framework as soon as possible.

As for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction to the proposed budget due to anticipated savings from a new rations contract; the abolishment of posts which have been vacant for two years or longer; as well as a 5 per cent reduction in the cost estimates for construction services. The exact amount of the recommended reduction will be provided to you by the Office of the Controller.

The Advisory Committee takes note of the substantial reductions proposed by the Secretary-General in the Operation's uniformed personnel pursuant to Security Council resolution 2063 (2012). The Committee also notes the proposed reduction in the civilian personnel component, as well as the proposed restructuring of the Operation's support services in order to enhance service delivery. The Advisory Committee, however, notes that some posts have been vacant for two years or longer and reiterates that the continuing requirement for such posts should be fully justified in the Operation's budget submissions.

Finally, the Advisory Committee remains concerned about the low implementation rate of construction projects, quick-impact projects and community-based labour intensive projects, and calls for greater effort and oversight in this area in order to achieve the intended benefits of these projects.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.