

Check against delivery

**Statement of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions**

11 March 2014

**Civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict
(A/68/784)**

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/68/784) on the report of the Secretary-General on civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict (A/68/696-S/2014/5). Both the Secretary-General's report and the Advisory Committee's report thereon provide follow-up to earlier reports, which were twice deferred for consideration by the General Assembly. Since the Assembly did not conclude its consideration of these reports, the Advisory Committee reiterates all its previous observations and recommendations on the proposals contained in the earlier report of the Secretary-General so that the General Assembly has an opportunity to examine them in conjunction with the observations and recommendations contained in its present report.

In his current report, the Secretary-General states that efforts to develop a more systematic and coherent United Nations response to delivering institution-building results will henceforth be incorporated within existing organizational structures and business processes. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes the intention of the Secretary-General to phase out the stand-alone team, in place since the outset of the initiative, by June 2014.

Mr. Chairman, the reports of the Secretary-General have been directed to multiple audiences. The Committee notes that its own consideration of these reports has preceded the deliberation of those bodies, while recognizing that the civilian capacity initiative encompasses several different work streams with administrative and budgetary implications. As a general observation, the Committee reiterates that the different elements described in the context of this initiative and the related reports thereon do not outline precise programmatic, administrative or budgetary implications.

More specifically, in terms of the lessons learned from efforts to support national institution-building, it is not clear to the Committee what would be the specific administrative and budgetary implications of the conclusions drawn in paragraphs 19-33 of the Secretary-General's report, particularly with respect to the content, timing and sequencing in UN budgets. The Committee notes that the national institution-building objectives are currently reflected in mission budget proposals along with resources proposed for the fulfillment of these objectives in cases where this is an authorized component of a particular mission's mandate. The Committee points out that there is nothing in the current authorized financial and budgetary framework that precludes a proposal for either staff or non-staff resources in support of these objectives within a mission's budget request submitted for the General Assembly's consideration and approval. The Committee stresses, however, the importance of proper planning efforts in order to minimize the frequency of resource redeployments during budget execution.

Mr. Chairman, in his latest report, the Secretary-General summarizes the experience of the CAPMATCH pilot, an online platform designed to better match the demand and supply of specialized civilian capacities. The Advisory Committee notes the Secretary-General's intention to discard the automated matching systems and to use instead existing systems within the Departments of Field Support and Peacekeeping Operations to undertake workforce planning and outreach. The Committee also notes that there is no specific proposal for funding in this regard.

Finally, concerning the Secretary-General's proposals to make further use of Government-provided personnel for time-limited, specialized functions not readily available within the Secretariat, the Advisory Committee believes that greater clarity is required in terms of the functions for which the use of such personnel may be appropriate. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly provide updated guidance to the Secretary-General in this regard. The Committee intends to make additional observations and recommendations on the use of Government-provided personnel in its forthcoming report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.