

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

6 March 2014

**Construction of a new facility for the International Residual Mechanism for
Criminal Tribunals, Arusha branch**

ACABQ report: A/68/777;

Report of the Secretary-General: A/68/724

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the progress in the construction of a new facility for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Arusha branch. In its report, the Advisory Committee welcomes the continued cooperation between the Mechanism and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and trusts that it will be maintained through all phases of the project.

The Advisory Committee notes that a full-time project manager to be based in Arusha has been hired to enhance the management and coordination of the project. In addition, the Committee notes the addition of a dedicated procurement officer to the project team and trusts that the functional cohesion of the team, which is based in Arusha, will not be affected by the location of the procurement officer in Entebbe.

Mr Chairman, the Committee emphasizes the importance of drawing lessons from the experience of other construction projects in the planning and implementation of this project, with particular attention to the recruitment of consultants and taking proactive measures to address project delays. In that regard, the Committee expresses its concern about the two month delay in the selection process for an architectural design consultant and stresses that the project must be closely monitored in order to ensure its completion within the overall timeline.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.