

Check against delivery

1. **Financing of the United Nations Operation in Cote D'Ivoire (UNOCI)**
2. **Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)**
3. **Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)**
4. **Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS)**

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

(ACABQ reports A/68/782/Add. 11, 14 and 16; A/68/866)

(Secretary-General reports: A/68/758, A/68/788, A/68/761 and A/68/709)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on UNOCI, MONUSCO and UNMIL contained in document A/68/782, addenda 11, 14 and 16 respectively, and on UNMIS contained in document A/68/866.

Starting with the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of about \$10.3 million in the proposed budget due to the likelihood of the unmanned aerial system not being used in the 2014/15 period, a reduction in the cost estimates for consultants and anticipated savings from a new contract for flight operations.

The Committee commends UNOCI for the projected completion of the integrated camps and logistics base at Anonkoua-Kouté in the 2013/14 period, which is reflected in reduced requirements for rental of premises in 2014/15.

The Advisory Committee notes the envisaged establishment of a Quick Reaction Force, subject to the approval of the Security Council, to support the security requirements in Liberia or in the sub region, should the need arise. The Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will specify the cost-sharing arrangements associated with the Quick Reaction Force, prior to its deployment.

Moving to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the Advisory Committee welcomes the progress made towards the reconfiguration of the Mission and the movement of its

operations from western to eastern DRC during the current financial period. It recommends that the Secretary-General provide further details in his next budget submission on the organizational, staffing and financial implications of the reconfiguration. The Committee also recommends that the organizational structure and staffing of the Mission's logistics hub at Entebbe be reviewed in light of the on-going reconfiguration of its operations.

The Advisory Committee's recommendations on operational costs would result in a reduction of almost \$4 million to the proposed budget of MONUSCO. The Committee recommends that the proposed resources for alternation, renovation and construction services be maintained at current levels, in view of the low rate of expenditures recorded to date under this budget line for the 2013/14 period. It also recommends that the proposed resources for consultants, which reflect a ten-fold increase as compared to the current appropriation, be reduced by 30 per cent. The Advisory Committee is of the view further efforts can be made to harness the existing capacity of the Mission to support its requirements for expertise in a range of specialized areas.

Turning to United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of some \$282,000 to the proposed budget. The recommended reductions result from adjusting the vacancy rates to be applied to national General Service staff in the light of recent incumbency patterns, the abolishment of 2 posts which have been vacant for two years or longer, and a 5 per cent reduction in the cost estimates for official travel.

The Committee commends the reduced expenditure on consultants in the 2012/13 period through the utilization of training resources from within the Mission. The Committee also welcomes the increased use of local consultants by UNMIL in the past few years and recommends the use of local consultants to the extent possible by other peacekeeping missions.

Finally, referring to the Committee's report on the final disposition of assets of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, the Committee recommends approval of the proposed donations of assets of UNMIS. From the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of UNMIS, the Committee notes the absence of some essential information and recommends that full and pertinent information in relation to the final dispositions of assets be provided in the future reports of the Secretary-General.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.