

UNITED NATIONS



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Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by
Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

9 May 2016

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the reports of the Secretary-General on the budget performance for 2014/15, and the budget for 2016/17 for six peacekeeping missions listed in today's journal under agenda items **149-UNISFA, 152-UNOCI, 154-MONUSCO, 158-UNMIK, 164-MINURSO and 166-UNSOS**.

2. In respect of agenda item **149-UNISFA**, the interim security Force in Abyei, the proposed budget for 2016/17 amounts to \$268.8 million, an increase of 0.2 per cent over the 2015/16 approved budget. UNISFA will continue its high-level engagement with all parties on the need

to implement the terms of the 20 June 2011 Agreement and, in particular, to resume meetings of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee and the Joint Political and Security Mechanism and encourage the establishment of the joint institutions.

3. With regards to item **152-UNOCI** in Côte d'Ivoire, I would like to highlight that the Security Council by its resolution 2284 (2016) of 28 April 2016 endorsed the withdrawal plan of the Secretary-General, including phased force reductions, as recommended in his special report of 31 March 2016 (S/2016/297) and decided that the mandate of UNOCI should be extended for a final period until 30 June 2017. The Secretariat is currently reviewing the impact of the Security Council decision upon the budget for the 2016/17 period. The Secretary-General will present a revised budget for the consideration by the General Assembly during the main part of its seventy-first session.

4. Turning now to agenda item **154-MONUSCO** in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a budget of \$1,275.3 million is proposed for 2016/17, reflecting a decrease of 4.2 per cent over the 2015/16 budget level. The decrease is primarily attributable to the net reduction of 392 posts and lower costs of fuel. In 2016/17 the Mission will continue its mandate implementation in the areas of protection of civilians, stabilization of conflict-affected areas, and support to democratic governance and institutional reforms. In addition, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2277 (2016), its mandate will include the provision of technical assistance and logistical support for the revision of the electoral register, and, when specified conditions are being met, provision of logistical support to facilitate the electoral cycle.

5. With regards to agenda item **158-UNMIK** in Kosovo, a budget of \$36.5 million is proposed for 2016/17, reflecting a decrease of 8.9 per cent compared to 2015/16. The Mission is proposing a net reduction of 20 posts and positions as well as the conversion of 7 international staff posts to national posts. The budget also reflects the proposed implementation of solar energy sources, in line with the request of the General Assembly to continue to reduce the overall environmental footprint.

6. In respect of agenda item **164-MINURSO** in Western Sahara, the proposed 2016/17 budget of \$54.3 million (exclusive of budgeted voluntary contributions-in-kind) represents a 6.2 per cent increase compared to the approved resources for 2015/16. The increase is primarily attributable to increased requirements for civilian personnel and to the estimated higher contract costs for the

Mission's aircraft fleet. The Security Council, by its resolution 2285 (2016) of 29 April 2016, recognized the important role played by MINURSO on the ground and the need for it to fully implement its mandate and emphasized the urgent need for MINURSO to return to full functionality.

7. The final item in the agenda this morning is item **166-UNSOS** in Somalia, formerly known as UNSOA or the Support Office for the African Union in Somalia, for which the proposed budget for 2016/17 amounts to \$583.4 million, representing an overall increase of 13.6 per cent compared to the 2015/16 approved budget. The mandate for UNSOS has been expanded pursuant to Security Council resolution 2245 (2015), which addressed the need to strengthen and regularize support to the African Union in Somalia (AMISOM) in a number of areas, as well as support the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and the Somali National Army on joint operations with AMISOM, giving rise to increased resource requirements for additional enabling capacity and equipment as well as increased staffing resources.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on these items.