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<u>Statement of the Chairman</u> <u>Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions</u>

<u>6 May 2016</u>

Budget performance report from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and proposed budget from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) (ACABO report 4/70/742/4dd 7: related report: 4/70/580, 4/70/717)

(ACABQ report A/70/742/Add.7; related report: A/70/580, A/70/717)

Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)

(ACABQ report A/70/742/Add.6; related reports of the Secretary-General: A/70/583 and A/70/730)

Final performance report of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) (ACABQ report A/70/856; related report A/70/559)

Final performance report of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) (ACABQ report A/70/857; related report A/70/560)

Final performance report of the United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (UNSMIS) (ACABQ report A/70/858; related report (A/70/564)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/70/742/Add.7) on the Budget performance report from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and proposed budget from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

The recommendations of the Advisory Committee would entail a reduction of \$642,400 to the Secretary-General's proposal contained in the report on the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (A/70/717).

The Advisory Committee considers that developments on the ground in Cyprus justify the establishment of five new civilian posts. However, the Committee recommends that a staffing review of UNFICYP (similar to those completed in other missions) be completed prior to the next budget submission for the 2017/18 period.

With regards to vehicles, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Mission updates its cost-benefit analysis comparing the cost of leasing and purchasing vehicles promptly. Pending its completion, the Advisory Committee recommends against the purchase of replacement vehicles. Similarly, any new contract for rented vehicles would depend on the outcome of the updated analysis.

The Advisory Committee also recommends that the budget requirements for medical services for the 2016/17 period be limited to \$350,000 and that the requirement for diesel fuel be limited to the actual usage in the 2014/15 period.

Mr. Chairman,

I now turn to the Advisory Committee's report on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (A/70/742/Add.6).

The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the resources proposed by the Secretary-General except in a few cases. The recommendations of the Committee include reductions related to the abolishment of 12 long-vacant posts, including one post which has been vacant for 74 months; a 10 per cent reduction under official travel; a reduction of \$100,000 for the travel costs for expert panels for roster-based recruitment for field-related positions; and the resources for petrol, oil and lubricants under ground transportation, which should be maintained at last year's levels to reflect the reduction of UNAMID's vehicle holdings over the past financial periods

Mr Chairman,

The three reports on MINURCAT, UNMIT and UNSMIS under discussion today represent the first set of final performance reports for peacekeeping operations prepared in compliance with IPSAS. Those standards require reporting on uncollected assessments (amounts due from Member States), as well as provisions for other accounts receivable (doubtful debts). The Advisory Committee stresses the importance of ensuring that a consistent presentation is used across all such final performance reports.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the cash balances of each of the three missions be credited to Member States. It requests that an update of the Mission's cash assets, liabilities and fund balance be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.

Thank you Mr. Chairman