

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**Agenda item 151**

**Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)**

**Agenda item 157**

**Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)**

**Agenda item 159**

**Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)**

**Agenda item 161(a)**

**Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)**

**Agenda Item 161(b)**

**Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by

Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas

Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

2 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 five peacekeeping missions listed in today's journal under agenda items **151-MINUSCA, 157-MINUSTAH, 159-UNMIL, 161(a)-UNDOF and 161(b)-UNIFIL**.

2. In respect of agenda item **151-MINUSCA** in the Central African Republic, the proposed budget for 2016/17 amounts to \$931.1 million, an increase of 14.4 per cent over the 2015/16 approved budget. As MINUSCA embarks on its third and final year of the establishment phase for new missions, its proposed budget level reflects the efforts of the Mission to reach full deployment and infrastructure. Consequently, the increase in the budget reflects a significantly

higher level of planned deployment of military and police personnel in line with the increase in authorized strength, and higher level of civilian personnel and operating costs.

3. With regards to item **157-MINUSTAH** in Haiti, a budget of \$346.9 million is proposed for 2016/17, reflecting a decrease of 8.8 per cent over the 2015/16 budget level owing to the continued downsizing of the mission. 177 posts and positions are planned to be abolished, as well as the closure of the regional offices in Gonaives and West Department. It is worth noting that in 2015/16 MINUSTAH supported presidential and legislative elections and that the operating environment of MINUSTAH will be shaped by the manner and the timing within which the electoral process will be completed.

4. Turning now to agenda item **159-UNMIL** in Liberia, the proposed budget amounts to \$205.1 million for 2016/17, a decrease of 40.5 per cent compared to 2015/16. The proposal reflects the drawdown of the military and police personnel strength in accordance with Security Council resolution 2239 (2015) as well as the consequential reduction in civilian personnel and related operational costs. The most essential challenge facing the Mission at this stage is the completion of the transition of security responsibilities to the Government of Liberia and its security institutions.

5. In respect of agenda item **161(a)-UNDOF**, the observer force in the Golan, the proposed 2016/17 budget amounts to \$47.7 million for 2016/17, representing a decrease of 7.7 per cent over the approved budget for 2015/16. The decrease is primarily attributable to the application of a higher vacancy factor in the computation of military contingent personnel costs, in light of the security situation in the area of operations.

6. The final item in the agenda this morning is item **161(b)-UNIFIL** in Lebanon for which the proposed 2016/17 budget amounts to \$499.4 million, a decrease of 1.4 per cent compared to the approved 2015/16 budget. The decrease is primarily attributable to reduced requirements for military contingent personnel and the absence of outsourcing for building and generator services in the 2016/17 period. The budget reflects also the proposed conversion of 11 international staff posts to national posts.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on this item.