

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Agenda item 154
Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission
in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)

Agenda item 158
Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by
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9 May 2017

Madam Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the reports of the Secretary-General on the budget performance for 2015/16, and the budget for 2017/18 for two peacekeeping missions listed in today's journal under agenda items **154-MONUSCO** and **158-UNMIL**.

2. In respect of agenda item **154-MONUSCO** in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the proposed 2017/18 budget of \$1,234.6 million represents a decrease of 0.1 per cent compared with the approved resources for 2016/17. Since the publication of the report and its hearing by the ACABQ, under the terms of its resolution 2348 (2017) of 31 March 2017, the Security Council decided to reduce the authorized troop ceiling by 3,700 military personnel. The Council also decided that MONUSCO should provide support to the implementation of the 31 December 2016 agreement, provide technical assistance and logistical support for the electoral process, and contribute to the provision of training to the Congolese national police in relation to elections security.

3. Pursuant to the provisions of resolution 2348 (2017), a detailed needs assessment is currently being undertaken by the Secretariat to determine the operational requirements of the

Mission. When the full extent of these requirements becomes available, further action will be considered following the established procedure.

4. Thus, the Controller informed the ACABQ, in a letter to the Chair dated 20 April 2017, of the intention of the Secretariat to absorb the associated costs arising from the Security Council decision, such as the repatriation of troops, within the approved budget for MONUSCO for 2016/17 and report thereon in the context of the related budget performance report for the Mission. Similarly for 2017/18, efforts will be made to accommodate the costs associated with the electoral process within the resources to be approved by the General Assembly for the Mission for the 2017/18 period. The reduction of military personnel might result in reduced requirements of approximately \$26.7 million. However, should the needs assessment conclude that additional resources are required for the 2017/18 period, the Secretariat will revert to the Advisory Committee and/or the General Assembly, in due course, with a proposal for the required resources.

5. In respect of agenda item **158-UNMIL** in Liberia, the proposed 2017/18 budget of \$122.1 million for the withdrawal and liquidation of the Mission by 30 June 2018 in line with Security Council resolution 2333 (2016), represents a 34.7 per cent decrease compared to the approved resources for 2016/17. The Mission will support the presidential and legislative elections in 2017 and the transition to a new Government. The Mission will continue cooperation with the United Nations country team to address the gaps in the team capabilities and to transfer the Mission's tasks. Before the time of closure, an environmental clean-up of the sites will be carried out and the assets will be disposed in accordance with the respective rules and regulations of the United Nations.

Madam Chair, distinguished delegates, I look forward to the discussions on these items.