Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

27 October 2014

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2014

Report of the International Civil Service Commission (A/69/30)

Report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/69/3)

(ACABQ report A/69/546)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/69/546) on the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/69/3) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2014 (A/69/30).

As indicated in the Secretary-General's report, a 1 per cent increase had been implemented in the comparator's base General Schedule scale effective 1 January 2014. Minor changes were also introduced in the United States tax schedule at the federal level for 2014. The Secretary-General indicates also that, in accordance with the normal adjustment procedure, in order to reflect the salary increase in the General Schedule as well as the impact of the tax changes referred to above, the base/floor scale would need to be adjusted upward by 1.01 per cent as of 1 January 2015. This would be implemented through the standard noloss-no-gain procedure, that is, by commensurately decreasing post adjustment. While generally cost neutral in terms of net remuneration, the base scale adjustment procedure would have implications in respect of separation payments.

The financial implications resulting from the adjustment to the base/floor salary scale for the programme budget of the United Nations are estimated at \$65,800 for the last twelvementh period of the biennium 2014-2015 and \$131,600 for the biennium 2016-2017. The financial implications for the budgets of peacekeeping operations are estimated at \$66,400 for the last six-month period of the financial period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and at \$132,800 for the financial period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

The Advisory Committee has no objection to the financial implications and proposals of the Secretary-General.

As regards the conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories, the Commission recommended a new net salary scale for the General Service category of the organizations of the common system in Madrid which is 2.9 per cent higher than the current Madrid salary scale. The financial implications of implementing the recommended salary scale are estimated at approximately \$110,000 per annum for the United Nations common system.

The Secretary-General indicates that since there were no General Service and other locally recruited staff funded from the UN programme budget in Madrid as at 31 December 2013, there is no financial implication with respect to the recommendation to implement the recommended salary scale for General Service and other locally recruited staff in Madrid for the United Nations programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.