

*** CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY ***



Agenda Item 134

**Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017:
Request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of
Cambodia (ECCC) (A/70/403)**

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

**Ms Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller**

25 November 2015

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General contained in A/70/403 presenting the request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). This report is a follow up to the Secretary-General's progress report contained in A/69/536. It outlines the substantive progress achieved by the Extraordinary Chambers; it contains information on its continuing financial challenges; and provides estimates of resource requirements for the national and the international components of ECCC, for the biennium 2016-2017.
2. Over the past year, ECCC has reached a point of peak workload, with full sets of appeal, trial and judicial investigation proceedings, advancing simultaneously. ECCC has been making steady progress in the four cases currently before it.

3. As requested by the General Assembly, ECCC has also prepared a completion plan, which highlights a number of remaining procedural milestones, and projects the timelines that are needed to complete the current caseload. The plan is updated on a quarterly basis.
4. The General Assembly, in its resolution 69/274, authorized the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$12.1 million to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of ECCC for 2015. To date, the full amount of \$12.1 million has been drawn upon, in addition to \$10.3 million received as voluntary contributions in 2015.
5. The commitment authority was instrumental in enabling the Secretariat to extend contracts for international staff until 31 December 2015 and ensure timely delivery of the ECCC's programme of work.
6. The expenditure against the commitment authority may be lower than \$12.1 million if any of the outstanding pledges for 2015 materialize before the end of 2015.
7. The Secretariat continues to work closely with the Principal Donors Group in New York and the Friends of ECCC to raise voluntary contributions. Ambassador David Scheffer, the Secretary-General's Special Expert to the UN Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials, with the guidance of the Principal Donors Group, has developed a fund raising strategy, seeking support from key governments for both international and national components. In addition, last week, the Royal Government of Cambodia formally conveyed to the Secretary-General its commitment to assure directly 6 months of national staff salary, plus operational costs, amounting to \$4.15 million for the national component in 2016, mirroring its approach in 2015.
8. The level of pledges of voluntary contributions is not sufficient to meet the 2016 requirements of ECCC and intensive outreach and fundraising efforts will continue. The

Secretary-General is seeking an appropriation for a subvention in the amount of \$25.2 million for 2016 to ensure the extension of contracts for international staff for the year 2016, and facilitate the ECCC to meet its key milestones.

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