

Statement of the Chairman
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4 May 2020

**Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and
proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 for the United
Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei**

(ACABQ report A/74737/Add.2; related reports: A/74/579 and A/74/723)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/74/737/Add.2) on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 for the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei.

The Committee notes that the proposal of the Secretary-General for 2020/21 which amounts to 270,747,800 including resources for Military and police personnel (\$131,539,400), Civilian personnel (\$46,013,600) and Operational costs (\$93,194,800), represents an increase of \$10,570,800, or 4.1 per cent, compared to the apportionment for 2019/20.

With regard to the staffing requirement, the Advisory Committee notes that the appointment of a civilian Deputy Head of Mission is still at the early stage of consultation between the relevant parties. The Committee therefore considers that the Mission should prioritize this process and adopt a gradual recruitment approach to the subsequent staffing of the Office of the Deputy Head of Mission, both in terms of the number and levels of the proposed posts.

In this context, the Committee recommends that the Special Assistant post in Abyei be established at the P-3 level, and that only one of the two proposed Political Affairs Officer (P-3) posts in Abyei be established at this stage. The Committee also

recommends the application of a vacancy rate of 75 per cent to the recruitment for the proposed Political Affairs Officer (P-4) posts in Juba, Khartoum, Addis Ababa, Kadugli and Gok Machar.

Moreover, the Committee recommends against the proposed establishment of a Facilities Management Officer (P-4) post and the proposed conversion of a general temporary assistance position of Engineer (P-3) into an established post. In addition, the Committee recommends that a Gender Officer position and two positions of Air Operations Officers be established as National Professional Officers posts.

Turning to operational costs, the Committee recommends a reduction of fifty per cent to the proposed increase in resources for facilities and infrastructure in view of the difficulties experienced by the Mission in carrying out construction and maintenance projects in the past. Additionally, the Committee recommends reductions under official travel for training, communication and information technology, and consultants and consulting services.

The overall adjustment recommended by the Advisory Committee amounts to \$4,963,900.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

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4 May 2020

Final performance report of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
(ACABQ report A/74/791, related report A/74/711)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Advisory Committee on final performance report of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI).

The Advisory Committee is recommending approval of the Secretary-General's proposal that the provisions of financial regulations 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 be suspended in respect of the liabilities and fund balance of \$3,041,000 in the light of the cash shortfall of UNOCI.

The Advisory Committee trusts that an update on the Operation's cash assets, liabilities and fund balance, as well as of assessed contributions received, will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of this item.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4 May 2020

**Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and
proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 of the
United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus**

(ACABQ report A/74/737/Add.4)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, and on the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

The Committee notes that the Secretary-General's proposal for 2020/21 amounts to \$52,045,600, under military and police personnel (\$21,870,500), civilian personnel (\$15,667,800), and operational costs (\$14,507,300), which represents an increase by 2.5 per cent or \$1,260,300 from 2019/20.

The Advisory Committee recommends against the establishment of one P-4 Planning Officer and one Associate Environmental Officer post at the National Professional Officer level, but recommends the approval of one Associate Legal Officer post at the National Professional Officer level, as the need for this new post reflects the ongoing nature of the related tasks. The Committee also recommends reductions under consultants and consulting services; official travel; facilities and infrastructure; ground transportation; and other supplies, services and equipment.

The Committee therefore recommends reductions in the amount of \$295,500 to the proposed resources for 2020/21.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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4 May 2020

**Budget performance of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti for
the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019**

(ACABQ report A/74/791, related report A/74/667)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Advisory Committee on the budget performance for the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019.

The Advisory Committee is recommending approval of the Secretary-General's proposals on the budget performance of MINUJUSTH in the 2018/19 period.

In its report, the Advisory Committee highlights the need to provide the General Assembly with comprehensive and transparent information on the disposal of assets, including the best value for the assets sold, and details on any related reimbursement/cost recovery for assets transferred to other missions.

The Advisory Committee also trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to review and update [the guide for senior leadership on field entity closure including] best practices and lessons learned during the closure of MINUJUSTH in areas such as the

disposal of waste during the liquidation of the Mission, the transition to a non-peacekeeping presence and cooperation with the United Nations country team for the planning, funding and implementation of programmatic activities.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4 May 2020

**Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and
proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 of the United
Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo**

*(ACABQ report: A/74/737,Add.5; related Secretary-General's reports: A/74/578,
A/74/692)*

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.

The Committee notes that the Secretary-General's proposed budget for 2020/21 amounts to \$39,827,300 for Military and police personnel (\$730,000), Civilian personnel (\$30,745,200), Operational costs (\$8,352,100), which represents an increase from 2019/20, by 6.9 per cent or \$2,580,600.

Regarding the request for resources related to the proposed budget, the Advisory Committee reiterates its concern regarding the continuing deterioration of the cash position of the Mission.

Concerning the Secretary-General's proposed budget for 2020/21, the Committee recommends the approval of the proposed staffing. The Committee recalls the General Assembly's request that vacant positions be filled expeditiously and reiterates that the continuing requirements for posts that have been vacant for two years or longer be either proposed for retention or abolishment.

In terms of operational costs, the Committee is not fully convinced by the justification provided for the increased level of resources and recommends reductions under official travel and facilities and infrastructure.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the proposed resources be reduced by \$13,700 from \$39,827,300 to \$39,813,600.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

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4 May 2020

**Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 and
proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021
for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara**
(ACABQ report A/74/737/Add.1, related reports A/74/645 and A/74/708)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Advisory Committee on the budget performance for 2018/19 and proposed budget for 2020/21 for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) (A/74/737/Add.1).

The Advisory Committee notes that the Secretary-General's proposal for 2020/21 amounts to \$57,593,300 (gross), comprising military and police personnel (\$7,664,500), civilian personnel (\$21,011,700) and operational costs (\$28,917,100), which represents an increase of \$1,245,900, or 2.2 per cent, compared with the approved resources for 2019/20.

The Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for civilian personnel, including the proposed reclassification of the post of Chief of Communications and Information Technology from the Field Service category to the P-4 level. Concerning one post vacant more than two years, the Committee trusts that an update on the recruitment status will be provided to the General Assembly now.

For the proposed resources for operational costs, the Advisory Committee recommends reductions under travel (\$21,000) and ground transportation (\$47,600).

The Advisory Committee's recommendations would entail a reduction of \$68,600 to the proposal of the Secretary-General.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.