

\*\*\* CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY \*\*\*



**Agenda item 138**  
**Proposed programme budget for 2022**

**Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives  
authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by

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Controller, Assistant-Secretary-General

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Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for 2022 in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council.

2. The overall resource requirements of special political missions continue to be included under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget. Following the adoption of resolution 72/266 A and the endorsement of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the earlier submission of proposals and the alignment of budget proposals for the special political missions with the rest of the regular budget, the overall requirements are now derived from the estimated resource needs of individual missions on an annual basis, which are set out in addenda 1 to 6 to section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2022.

3. Pursuant to General Assembly 72/266 A, as with other sections of the proposed programme budget for 2022, the proposals for special political missions incorporate both the proposed programme plan and performance information, as well as post and non-post resource requirements.

4. The total proposed resources for 2022 amount to \$730.7 million (net of staff assessment) for special political missions, representing an overall increase of \$0.3 million (net of staff assessment) compared with the approved budget of \$730.4 million for 2021.
5. The proposed increase of \$0.3 million for 2022 reflects the net result of:
- (i) a reduction of \$7.1 million related to the discontinuation of two missions: the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi and the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), pursuant to Security Council presidential statement S/PRST/2020/12 and resolution 2512 (2020).
  - (ii) an increase of \$9.5 million in civilian personnel cost, owing to: the delayed impact of 297 positions established in 2021 for UNITAMS, UNOWAS, UNOCA, CTED, etc., for which a vacancy rate of 50 per cent was applied in the 2021 budget; and updated standard salary costs based on latest rates and 2020 common staff cost expenditure patterns.
  - (iii) an increase of \$0.4 million in military and police personnel costs.
  - (iv) an increase of \$6.9 million in operational costs of UNITAMS reflecting the scaling up of operations after the start-up period in 2021.
  - (v) a reduction of \$9.7 million in operational costs in all other missions, mostly in UNSOM, the Verification Mission in Colombia, UNMHA, etc.
  - (vi) an increase of \$0.3 million for the share of the regional service centre in Entebbe reflecting the increased share of special political missions compared to 2021, with the establishment of UNITAMS and drawdown of UNAMID.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

6. Due to the timing of Security Council resolutions 2574 (2021) and 2579 (2021) and the related developments, the financial resources required for the implementation of additional mandated activities with respect to the Verification Mission in Colombia and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan are not captured in the initial cluster III proposed budget, but presented separately in a report of revised estimates (addendum 7), which is currently being considered by the Advisory Committee, and will be introduced at the Fifth Committee in due course.

I look forward to the discussions on this item.

Thank you.