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Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

**Draft resolution submitted by the Chair of the Committee following
informal consultations**

Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon¹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

Recalling Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 2485 (2019) of 29 August 2019, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force until 31 August 2020,

Recalling also its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 73/322 of 3 July 2019, as well as its decision 73/555 of 3 July 2019,

Reaffirming also the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

¹ A/74/675 and A/74/713.

² A/74/737/Add.9

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of its resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006, 61/276 of 29 June 2007, 64/269 of 24 June 2010, 65/289 of 30 June 2011, 66/264 of 21 June 2012, 69/307 of 25 June 2015, and 70/286 of 17 June 2016, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as at 30 April 2020, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 106.1 million United States dollars, representing some 1.1 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only 100 Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that proposed peacekeeping budgets are based on the relevant legislative mandates;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,² subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish clear frameworks and guidelines to distinguish what type of solicitation procedures (ITBs or RFPs) are to be utilized for, among other things, acquiring different types of goods and services, including aviation services, and to update the United Nations Procurement Manual accordingly;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake measures to ensure that the Organization conforms to best practice in public procurement with respect to transparency, including through the placing of additional information in the public domain on the outcome of procurement exercises conducted, including in the area of

aviation services, so as to further increase transparency over the Organization's procurement operations and to update the UN Procurement Manual accordingly;

11. *Notes* the ongoing development of impact-based performance indicators as part of the implementation of the CPAS, and in this regard requests the SG in his next report to provide information on how these indicators will measure the performance of mandated tasks, the impact of resource allocation on mission performance for mandated tasks, and will contribute to the identification of the required resources for each mandated task;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide in his next report an execution plan for, and analysis of, the implementation of the new CPAS, including on the System's correlation with mission planning and budget formulation, to facilitate consideration by the General Assembly of resource requests for CPAS implementation;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the accountability system of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen risk management and internal controls in the management of peacekeeping budgets to facilitate mandate implementation and increase transparency, and to report thereon in his next report;

14. *Also emphasizes* the importance of overall budgetary performance in peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the recommendations of the relevant oversight bodies, while giving due regard to the guidance and recommendations of the General Assembly, and to report thereon in the context of the performance reports;

15. *Notes* with grave concern the threat to life, health, safety and security caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the importance of ensuring the safety, security and health of peacekeeping personnel, maintaining continuity of critical mandate delivery including protection of civilians, minimizing the risk of mission activities spreading the virus, and where appropriate, within mandates, supporting national authorities, upon their request, in their response to COVID-19 in collaboration with the Resident Coordinator and other UN entities in the country, and requests the Secretary General to indicate in his next performance report how the Mission responded;

16. *Requests* the SG to indicate in the next performance report how the mission responded, what lessons can be learnt from past and present epidemics and pandemics, and to propose options for improving future preparedness for epidemics and pandemics including for business continuity;

17. *Notes* the progress made in the implementation of the multiyear environmental strategy to reduce the footprint of peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to enhance measures, in line with the five pillars of the strategy and in accordance with particular conditions on the ground, for the implementation of the strategy in all peacekeeping missions and in full compliance with the relevant rules and regulations and to report thereon in the context of his next overview report;

18. *Expresses* concern over the allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse reported in peacekeeping missions, requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the United Nations policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse with regard to all civilian, military and police personnel, and to report thereon in the context of his next report on cross-cutting issues;

19. *Recognizes* the increasing security challenges faced by United Nations peacekeepers, reaffirms its commitment to the improvement of the safety and security of Mission personnel, in particular uniformed personnel, and requests the Secretary-General to further strengthen the measures in this regard, and to report thereon to the General Assembly about steps taken in the context of the next mission budget;

20. *Reaffirms* the provisions of section XVIII of Resolution 61/276 and further recognizes the important role played by quick-impact projects in supporting the implementation of mission mandates, stresses the need for the timely, responsible and accountable implementation of all planned projects, and requests the Secretary-General to enhance the impact of these projects while addressing underlying challenges;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, to consider options for greater nationalization of functions when formulating budget submissions, commensurate with mission mandates and requirements;

22. *Reiterates* its concern for the high vacancies under civilian staffing and further reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that vacant posts are filled expeditiously;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure vacant posts are filled expeditiously and decides not to abolish the posts that have been vacant for 24 months or longer during this budget period;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review those posts that have been vacant for 24 months or longer and to propose either for their retention with clear justification of their need or their abolishment in his next budget submission;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a comparative assessment on the services provided by respective entities for mine action activities and to provide the results in the context of his next report;

26. *Recognizes* the important role played by regional and sub-regional actors for peacekeeping operations, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to deepen the partnership, cooperation, and coordination of the United Nations with regional and sub-regional actors in accordance with relevant mandates and to provide information on these deepened engagements in the context of his next reports;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266, 61/276, 64/269, 65/289, 66/264, 69/307, and 70/286;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all action necessary to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

2019 Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June

29. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the Force for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019,³

Financing arrangements for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

30. *Takes* into account the special circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic and authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 in a total amount not exceeding 480,649,100 dollars for the maintenance of the Force;

Financing of the commitment authority

31. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 80,108,200 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 August 2020 in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 73/272 of 22 December 2018, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2020, as set out in its resolution 73/271 of 22 December 2018;

32. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 31 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 2,301,400 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Force for the period from 1 July to 31 August 2020;

33. *Further decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 400,540,900 dollars for the period from 1 September 2020 to 30 June 2021, at a monthly rate of 40,054,090 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 73/272, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2020 and 2021, as set out in its resolution 73/271, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force;

34. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 33 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 11,507,300 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Force for the for the period from 1 September 2020 to 30 June 2021;

Estimates for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

35. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon the amount of 32,105,600 dollars for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, comprising 27,474,400 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 4,631,200 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

³ A/74/675.

Financing of the estimates for the support account and the United Nations Logistics Base

36. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 5,351,000 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 August 2020, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 73/272, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2020, as set out in its resolution 73/271;

37. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 36 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 443,200 dollars, comprising the prorated share of 368,000 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 75,200 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

38. *Further decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 26,754,600 dollars for the period from 1 September 2020 to 30 June 2021, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 73/272, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2020 and 2021, as set out in its resolution 73/271, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force;

39. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 38 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 2,216,000 dollars, comprising the prorated share of 1,840,200 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 375,800 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

40. *Also decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraphs 36 and 38 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other revenue in the amount of 8,543,400 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2019, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 73/272, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2019, as set out in its resolution 73/271;

41. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Force, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other revenue in the total amount of 8,543,400 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2019, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 40 above;

42. *Decides* that the increase of 909,400 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2019 shall be added to the credits in the amount of 8,543,400 dollars referred to in paragraphs 40 and 41 above;

43. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel participating in the Force under the auspices of the United Nations, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

44. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in

accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

45. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled “Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East”, the sub-item entitled “United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon”.

46. *Also decides* to revert to the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as soon as possible during its seventy-fifth session.
