

**Check against delivery**

**Statement of the Chairman of the ACABQ on the Construction of a new facility for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Arusha branch**

*ACABQ report: A/66/807*

*Report of the Secretary-General: A/66/754*

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report, (A/66/807), on the report of the Secretary-General on the construction of the new facility for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Arusha branch.

The Advisory Committee notes that the minimum amount of land required for the new facility is approximately 5 acres, and requests the Secretary-General to further engage with other suitable entities in Arusha to explore the possibility of co-locating in order to share common services and/or space, in particular courtroom space, so as to reduce overall requirements and costs.

In addition, noting that the international residual mechanism should be a small, temporary and efficient structure, whose functions and size would diminish over time, the Committee further recommends that the Secretary-General provide comparative cost information for a temporary and a permanent structure for the new facility for the Arusha branch of the Mechanism in his next report to the General Assembly.

The Advisory Committee was informed that a total of 90 staff has been used to estimate the space requirements for planning purposes. Noting that the General Assembly, in its resolution 66/240, approved 44 posts for the continuous functions of the Arusha branch of the Mechanism, the Committee urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the final space requirements for the new facility reflect the actual number of staff needed to perform the functions of the Mechanism.

Mr. Chairman,

In the Committee's view, there is a risk of slippage in the proposed project schedule, based on progress to date regarding the selection of the site. The Committee also notes that a number of fundamental issues relating to the use of the future facility remain to be resolved. The Advisory Committee stresses that the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the second part of the resumed sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly should contain more detailed information on the key decision points regarding the conceptual design, project plan and cost estimate of the project.

Thank you.