

**Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services
on the programme evaluation of the United Nations Stabilization
Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)**

(A/66/740)

**Programme evaluation of performance and achievement of results of
United Nations peacekeeping activities in the Democratic Republic of
the Congo (MONUC and MONUSCO)**

(A/66/741)

**Statement to the Fifth Committee by the
Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services
Carman L. Lapointe
10 May 2012**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members of the Fifth Committee,

I am pleased to introduce two reports of programme evaluations of current United Nations peacekeeping operations:

- The first examines the relevance and effectiveness of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) after the January 2010 earthquake.
- The second examines the performance and achievement of results of United Nations peacekeeping activities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC and MONUSCO).

I will turn first to the MINUSTAH report.

Mr. Chairman,

In our report, we acknowledge that MINUSTAH suffered heavy, tragic losses following the Haiti earthquake. The Mission rose to the suddenly

heightened challenge and responded effectively to the acute needs in the aftermath that necessarily exceeded its initial role significantly. This support was critical at that time, as the capacity of the Haitian Government and the international community was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the disaster. Indisputably, MINUSTAH's response was enabled by the dedication of its staff as well as staffs of many other parts of the United Nations system, as well as by the solidarity and tremendous efforts of the international community.

In 2011, as Haiti began to recover and reconstruct, MINUSTAH realigned its activities, focusing more on maintaining political stability, facilitating the continued delivery of humanitarian assistance and supporting the Haitian National Police. By mid-2011, it was again re-focusing on its core mandate of institution-building and capacity development, particularly in the area of the rule of law. Nevertheless, the overall capacity of key institutions remained weak, and the Haitian National Police continued to rely on United Nations Police for extensive operational support. It is important to note that MINUSTAH, the Government of Haiti and the international community all share responsibility for the strengthening and reform of key institutions.

Our recommendations were issued with this new role in mind, and are intended to provide constructive feedback as MINUSTAH and the Government of Haiti continue to make progress together.

OIOS issued a total of eight recommendations to MINUSTAH, which are set out in paragraph 81 of the report, and accompanied by a management response. Our recommendations deal primarily with human rights and the security sector, including more focus to expedite the early adoption of the proposed Haitian National Police development

plan 2012-2016; strengthening a common United Nations approach to supporting rule-of-law initiatives; and releasing more comprehensive human rights monitoring reports on a regular basis. With regard to the latter, management noted that, in December 2011, OHCHR published two reports of the Human Rights Section on alleged killings by the Haitian National Police, while four other reports would be published by June 2012.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to turn now to MONUSCO.

This report outlines several accomplishments: as one of the largest peacekeeping missions in United Nations history, MONUC/ MONUSCO played a critical enabling role for the Congolese Government, the international community and civil society. It has contributed to improved security conditions in much of the country, and supported two national elections, the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the work of civil society. It also introduced innovative tools and approaches, including community interaction mechanisms and human rights due diligence, that are a model for other peacekeeping operations.

The report also acknowledges slow progress in security sector reforms and the rule of law that are holding back achievement of the agreed benchmarks for the Mission's exit. Improvements in these areas are a crucial prerequisite for sustainable progress and will require actions by many partners, including government entities and members of the international community.

OIOS issued a total of eight recommendations to MONUSCO, which are set out in part VI of the report, immediately followed by management's response.

You may recall that, just yesterday, I highlighted the matter of sexual exploitation and abuse in connection with the report on the Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011¹. I would like to take the opportunity to repeat OIOS' message.

Mr. Chairman, the objective of our recommendations remains consistent regardless of whether they result from investigations, or as in the report before you, from evaluations.

OIOS encourages all possible steps be taken to truly implement and reinforce the stated zero-tolerance policy. These must include accountability and sanctioning mechanisms that are applied consistently not only to individuals who engage directly in sexual exploitation and abuse, but also to managers and supervisors that fail to implement appropriate preventative or reporting systems, or fail to respond appropriately to known or suspected misconduct or reported allegations; and specifically to those responsible for failures in security, command and other control systems in cases involving military and uniformed personnel; and ultimately to police- and troop-contributing countries that fail to implement the provisions of committed arrangements to investigate appropriately and report back to the United Nations on outcomes.

We recognize, as pointed out by management in its response, that MONUC/MONUSCO, being the largest United Nations operation in the world in terms of personnel, indeed achieved a 40 per cent decrease in the number of allegations in 2010/11. Nevertheless, a 100 per cent decrease in the number

¹ A/66/286 (Part II)

of substantiated reports of Sexual Exploitation and abuse in United Nations operations is the only acceptable result in a zero-tolerance system.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to conclude by thanking the OIOS evaluation teams as well as management and staff of MINUSTAH and MONUSCO, and the many other members of the Haitian, Congolese and United Nations communities who provided information and assistance to the teams in the course of their work.

I look forward to further discussions on these reports.

Thank you.