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Agenda item 126

**International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals**

**Report of the Secretary-General on construction of a new facility for the International  
Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Arusha branch**

**(A/67/696)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by

Mr. Johannes Huisman

Director, Programme Planning and Budget Division

8 March 2013

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished members of the Committee

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General, entitled “Construction of a new facility for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Arusha Branch”, contained in document A/67/696.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to the requests of the General Assembly as contained in its resolutions 66/240 of 24 December 2011 and 66/240 B of 21 June 2012, by which the Assembly, among others, decided to appropriate an initial amount of \$3 million for the construction, in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, of new facilities for the Arusha Branch of the Mechanism.

3. The report provides an update on the progress of the project since the issuance of the previous report of the Secretary-General (A/66/754). Since then, considerable progress has been achieved: a suitable building site has been identified, the project team has concluded the conceptual design, a detailed cost estimate has been prepared, and the overall project schedule has been reduced from five years and three months to four years, with a completion date at the end of 2015. A proposal is included in the current report for utilizing a multi-year account to facilitate the implementation of this project, consistent with arrangements for similar construction projects of the Secretariat.

4. The Mechanism has intensified its close cooperation with the Office of Central Support Services, which provides guidance and support in all aspects of project implementation, drawing from the experience and lessons learned from recent capital projects, including the capital master plan in New York, and the new office facilities in Addis Ababa and Nairobi.

5. The General Assembly is requested to take note of the report and authorize the use of a multi-year special account for this project.

6. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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