

Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4 May 2015

Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT)

(ACABQ report A/69/841; related report: A/69/596)

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT)

(ACABQ report A/69/851; related report: A/69/589)

Final performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS)

(ACABQ report A/69/848; related report: A/69/579)

Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (UNSMIS)

(ACABQ report A/69/847; related report: A/69/594 and Corr. 1)

Budget performance of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 and proposed budget for the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

(ACABQ report: A/69/839/Add.10; related reports: A/69/591 and A/69/729)

Budget performance of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 and the proposed budget for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

(ACABQ report: A/69/839/Add.3; related reports: A/69/595 and A/69/730)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's reports on the financing of the United Nations Missions in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT); the Syrian Arab Republic (UNSMIS); and the United Nations Observer Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), as well as the final performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS).

With respect to MINURCAT, the Advisory Committee recommends that assets transferred to other missions are recorded according to their depreciated value, in accordance with IPSAS. Further, the Advisory Committee regrets that MINURCAT's asset disposal process did not follow the parameters for asset disposal as set out in the Liquidation Manual and expects that the implementation of IPSAS and Umoja will ensure that the difficulties in accurate accounting and recording of assets will be minimized in future mission liquidations.

In its report on UNMIT, the Committee notes that information on the actual disposition of all assets donated to the Government should be provided by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly.

Turning to UNSMIS, I would like to highlight an inventory discrepancy in the number of armoured vehicles transferred from UNSMIS to the Office of the Joint Special Representative for Syria. As such vehicles are valued at approximately \$130,000 each, the Committee expects the Secretary-General to provide an update their status to the Assembly.

And finally, on UNMIS, the Advisory Committee reiterates that the cash surpluses available for credit to Member States should be returned in full and in a timely manner. The Committee also reiterates its recommendation that the Secretary-General be requested to use his good offices and engage Member States in seeking to resolve the issue of unpaid contributions.

Mr. Chairman,

The Advisory Committee has made a recommendation that has an impact on the budget proposals of the missions under review today, concerning the cost apportionment relating to applications developed by the OICT and the supply chain management initiative. The Advisory Committee does not concur with the proposal of the Secretary-General to charge the missions for the entirety of those costs and recommends that the proposed resource requirements in the individual missions be reduced accordingly (A/69/839). This would result in a reduction for the missions concerned under information technology, consultancy services and official travel. Related upward adjustments are reflected in the Committee's report on the support account (A/69/860).

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the budget performance of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 and proposed budget for the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

The recommendations of the Advisory Committee would entail a net increase of \$62,800 to the proposed budget for UNMIK.

Under civilian staffing, the Committee recommends against the proposed abolishment of the P-4 post of Conduct and Discipline Officer, in line with its recommendation last year as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 68/290.

Mr Chairman,

Turning now to the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on MINURSO contained in document A/69/839/Add.3

The Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of \$815,500 to the proposed budget of MINURSO for 2015/16.

Concerning MINURSO's decision to acquire surplus vehicles from other missions instead purchasing new ones, the Committee is of the view that other missions should be encouraged to take similar cost saving measures.

Finally, the Advisory Committee reiterates its concern regarding the precarious financial position of the Mission due to the late receipt of assessed contributions and calls upon the Secretary-General to continue exploring available options to address this issue.

Mr. Chairman,

I thank you for your attention.