

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**Agenda Item 148**

**Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations**

**- Closed peacekeeping missions**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

**Statement by**

**Ms Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas**  
**Assistant Secretary-General, Controller**

**4 May 2015**

---

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

I have the honour to introduce the Secretary-General's report on the updated financial position of closed peacekeeping missions as at 30 June 2014 (A/69/659). Section II of the report also addresses the cash requirements of the organization.

As at June 30, 2014, 20 of the 25 closed peacekeeping missions covered under this item had cash surpluses available for credit to Member States in the amount of \$58.9 million. Five of the missions had cash deficits totalling \$86.7 million owing to outstanding payment of assessed contributions.

As explained in previous reports of the Secretary-General (A/66/665, A/67/739 and A/68/666), liquidity in active peacekeeping missions is volatile, with the cash surpluses of closed missions currently being used to alleviate their cash shortage. While there has been some improvement in recent years, a significant level of cross-borrowing is still required. The report therefore requests the General Assembly to consider options for the temporary financing of missions that are experiencing cash shortages.

The Secretary General is proposing the use of surplus funds from other active missions on a case by case basis, for a limited amount of up to 1.4% of the total cost of peacekeeping operations -- \$100 million -- to be repaid in part or in full at the shortest possible time. Close monitoring would be accompanied by quarterly reporting published online, ensuring maximum transparency and accountability.

Another option would be the establishment of a peacekeeping working capital fund for an amount of \$100 million financed either from new assessments, or from a transfer of unencumbered balance from 2013/14.

If no new mechanism is approved to address the cash requirements of active peacekeeping operations, the General Assembly is requested to allow retention of the net cash balance of \$59 million in the closed missions. The Secretary General has proposed these alternatives as a way to address the recurrent problem of liquidity in peacekeeping missions in a sustainable manner.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on this item.