

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**Agenda Item 148**

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

- **Overview**
- **UN Logistics Base (UNLB)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

**Statement by**

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Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I have the honour to introduce the Secretary-General's overview report on the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations which contains the budget performance for 2013/14 and the proposed budget for 2015/16. I would also like to introduce the Secretary-General's note on the proposed budgetary levels for peacekeeping operations, as well as the budget proposal for the period 2015/16 for the United Nations Logistics Base (UNLB).

The report is a comprehensive overview of the strategic aspects of peacekeeping, budget performance and requirements of current and future operations. Peacekeeping continues to be one of the most visible, challenging and important mandates undertaken by the United Nations. The demand to deliver security, stability and political and early peacebuilding support to help countries mitigate crises, reinforce the foundations for peace and work towards lasting recovery, has continued to grow. The Organization is committed to further improving its operational resilience, strategic responsiveness, coherent delivery and cost-effectiveness. The budget proposals reflect enhanced planning, higher mobility, rapid responses, and improvements in force protection, information analysis, and the use of new technologies.

*Performance report 2014/15*

In 2013/14, \$7,520 million were spent in peacekeeping operations. That includes all missions, the UN Logistics base, and the support account. Compared to the approved budget of \$7,833

million, it shows an overall implementation rate of 96 per cent, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$313 million.

The main under-expenditures occurred in *military and police personnel* and *operational costs*. Under *military and police personnel*, the reduction was principally due to (a) lower deployment of contingent personnel and police officers for MINUSMA (UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali) and UNOCI (UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire), (b) the accelerated drawdown of uniformed personnel and reduced cost of rations in UNAMID (African Union-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur), and (c) the limited deployment of Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism personnel and equipment and the suspension of the Mechanism's aerial and verification operations in UNISFA (UN Interim Security Force for Abyei). This is explained in paragraph 208 of the report.

Under *operational costs*, the under-expenditure was attributable principally to lower requirements for air transportation in a number of missions, [including MONUSCO (UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo), UNAMID, UNISFA, UNMISS (UN Mission in South Sudan), UNOCI and UNMIL (UN Mission in Liberia). This is] explained in paragraph 210 of the report.

#### Proposed budget for 2015/16

The resources proposed for peacekeeping operations for 2015/16, including UNLB and the support account, amount to \$8,491.8 million, an increase of 0.4% (\$29.6 million) over 2014/15.

The initial estimates were adjusted following the Security Council's decision of 2 April 2015, which authorized the Secretary-General to implement the third phase of the phased drawdown of UNMIL to arrive at lower ceilings for military and police personnel by September 2015.

I would like to highlight some of the areas of increase requirements for 2015/16.

- (a) higher level of deployment of civilian personnel in MINUSCA (UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic) and higher operational costs in line with the second year of the establishment of the Mission;
- (b) planned full deployment of civilian personnel in MINUSMA and increased mine detection and mine clearing services and construction projects;
- (c) increased number of locations where support is provided to AMISOM (African Union Mission in Somalia) in UNSOA (UN Support Office for AMISOM); and
- (d) proposed deployment of additional aircrafts in UNSOA, UNSOM (UN Assistance Mission in Somalia) and MINUSCA. Details are provided in paragraph 218 and 219 of the report.

Reductions are primarily due to the drawdown of uniformed personnel in MINUSTAH (UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti), UNDOF (UN Disengagement Observer Force), UNMIL, UNOCI, and UNISFA; and lower costs for contingent-owned equipment reimbursements and travel on rotation in MONUSCO. This is explained in paragraph 217 of the report.

The Committee will recall that the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/261, requested the Secretary-General to apply deductions to the reimbursement of troop costs for absent or non-functional major equipment. So far retroactive deductions have been made for the first 3 quarters of 2014 for a total amount of \$68.7 million.

The current budget proposals do not include provisions for such deductions as projections of any recoveries for 2015/16 are unpredictable at this stage. The Secretariat will continue to collect and analyse empirical data and clear trends, to serve as basis for future budget projections on recoveries due to absent or non-functional equipment.

Mr. Chairman,

I would now like to turn to the Secretary-General's reports for UN Logistics Base, UNLB. The actual expenditure for the 2013/14 amounted to \$68.5 million representing an overall budget implementation rate of 100 per cent.

The proposed 2015/16 budget amounts to \$71.7 million, an overall increase of 1.9% over the 2014/15 period. The increase of \$1.4 million is attributable to the proposed establishment of 26 new positions, mainly in support of the MINUSMA and MINUSCA; the planned refurbishment and renovation of various buildings; and the need to replace ageing vehicles.

As part of the global field support strategy, UNLB, which has been in operation since 1994, is being re-profiled as Global Service Centre. The centre operates as a unified entity comprising the UNLB in Brindisi, Italy, and the UN Support Base in Valencia, Spain, providing global ICT, logistics and supply chain operational management and other services throughout the life-cycle of field missions, from start-up to liquidation.

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

I look forward to the discussions on this item.

Thank you.