

UNITED NATIONS



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**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

**Statement by**

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

**12 May 2015**

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Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

I have the honour to introduce the Secretary-General's report on budget performance for the period 2013/14 and the budget for 2015/16 for agenda items **151-MINUSCA**, **154-MONUSCO**, **157-MINUSTAH**, **159-UNMIL**, **160-MINUSMA**, **161(a)-UNDOF**, **161(b)-UNIFIL**, **162-UNMISS**, and **166-UNAMID**. In addition I will speak to you on the notes on the financing arrangements for agenda items **154-MONUSCO** and **159-UNMIL**.

Agenda item **151-MINUSCA** is a newly established Mission in the Central African Republic, which has already been in operation since April 2014 and has a complete uniformed personnel component. On 6 May 2014 the ACABQ approved a commitment authority of up to \$59.5 million for the period 10 April to 30 June 2014 for the establishment of the mission. The Mission spent \$59.2 million and this amount is now requested for appropriation.

So as to finance the continuation of **MINUSCA**, a budget of \$843.6 million is proposed for 2015/16, an increase of 34.2% over 2014/15. It reflects full deployment of uniformed personnel in accordance with Security Council resolution 2149 (2014) and a net increase of 166 civilians. The Mission will restructure its civilian staff, reassigning and/or redeploying 23 posts, and expand ground operations and additional facilities, communications and information technology infrastructure and medical support.

Mr Chairman

In respect of agenda item **154-MONUSCO** as outlined in the Secretary General's note on financing arrangements (A/69/832), a request for additional funding in the amount of \$38.6 million was presented on 24 March 2015. The ACABQ, in its report (A/69/839/Add.5) recommended that the General Assembly authorise the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$38.6 million for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, in addition to the amount of \$1.4 billion already appropriated for the same period. The Advisory Committee also encouraged the Mission to accommodate any additional resources within the current appropriation and minimise the level of the expected budget shortfall. Following the unexpected slowdown in joint operations with the Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC), projections for 2014/15 have been reduced by 11 million from \$38.6 million to \$27.6 million. Updated supplementary information will be provided to the Fifth Committee shortly to reflect the updated and lower expenditure projection.

Turning to the proposed 2015/16 budget for **MONUSCO**, the requested amount of \$1.37 billion represents a decrease of 2% compared to the 2014/15 budget. The decrease is primarily attributable to delayed deployment of military personnel and lower costs of contingent owned equipment.

In respect of agenda item **157-MINUSTAH** in Haiti, the proposed 2015/16 budget amounts to \$389.5 million, a reduction of 22.1% compared to the 2014/15 budget. Following Security Council resolution 2180 (2014), the number of military contingents is being reduced from 5,021 to 2,370, 268 posts/positions are being abolished and 38 posts converted (22 international staff and 16 UNV's to 38 national staff). Five liaison offices and the regional office in Jacmel will be closed. The Mission's civilian air fleet is being reconfigured, and the Santo Domingo Support Office is being progressively closed.

In respect of agenda item **159-UNMIL** in Liberia, I would like to refer to my letter addressed to the Committee and the ACABQ dated 11 May, when it was requested that the proposal for additional

funding set forth in the note on the financing arrangements for the Mission (A/69/857), be withdrawn from consideration.

Turning to the proposed 2015/16 budget for **UNMIL**, the requested amount of \$355.2 million represents a reduction of 16.9 % compared with the 2014/15 budget. The decrease is mainly attributable to the reduction in military and civilian personnel, as well as a reduction in facilities and infrastructure, ground and air transportation.

Mr Chairman

With respect to agenda item **160-MINUSMA** in Mali, I once again thank the Committee for making the time in its busy agenda to allow me to introduce the financing arrangements for this Mission for 2014/15 separately last Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May.

For 2015/16 **MINUSMA** will require \$936 million, a 12.7% increase over 2014/15. This reflects the increases in military and police personnel, and a net increase of 108 civilian posts. It also reflects the increase for the construction of camps for the new force laydown structure; air transportation services and contractual arrangements for improvised explosive device awareness training for all military contingents.

Turning now to agenda item **161(a)-UNDOF**, the observer force in the Golan, the proposed 2015/16 budget amounts to \$52.3 million, a decrease of 18% compared to the 2014/15 budget. The reduced requirements are attributable primarily to the proposed reduction of military contingent personnel and the reduction of four international posts and 21 national posts.

Under agenda item **161(b)-UNIFIL** in Lebanon the proposed 2015/16 budget amounts to \$517.5 million and represents an increase 1.6% compared to the 2014/15 budget. The increase is attributable primarily to the deployment of equipment and troops from two military contingent battalions and higher cost of civilian personnel, offset in part by reduced requirements for operational costs.

With respect to agenda item **162-UNMISS** in South Sudan, the proposed 2015/16 budget amounts to \$1.1 billion, an increase of 1.1% compared with the 2014/15. Owing to the difficult circumstances facing the Mission with the prolonged presence of over 100,000 internally displaced persons, the budget assumes increased deployment to the highest authorized strength for military observers, military contingents, UN police and former police personnel throughout the 2015/16 period. This increase is mainly offset by reduced requirements for civilian personnel which are primarily attributable to a lower average strength of international staff, national staff and United Nations volunteers.

The final item of the agenda is **166-UNAMID** in Darfur, for which the proposed 2015/16 budget amounts to \$1.1 billion, a decrease of 1.6% compared to 2014/15. The additional costs for military

and police personnel are offset by a reduction of 9.5% in operational costs, mainly due to lower air transportation and related costs, lower hiring costs and the reduction in the fleet by two rotary-wing aircraft.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

I look forward to the discussions on all these items. Thank you.