

*** CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY ***

UNITED NATIONS



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**Agenda item 134
Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017**

**Revised estimates relating to the programme budget
for the biennium 2016-2017 under sections 27, Humanitarian assistance,
and 36, Staff assessment**

United Nations Monitoring Mechanism

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller
17 March 2016

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/70/726 and Corr.1, on the revised estimates for the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The Monitoring Mechanism was established by Security Council resolution 2165 of 14 July 2014 to monitor cross-border humanitarian operations of the United Nations and partner agencies delivering aid to people in need in the Syrian Arab Republic.

2. On 22 December 2015, by its resolution 2258, the Security Council extended the mandate of the Monitoring Mechanism until 10 January 2017. This decision came one day before the conclusion of the agenda item on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 as such no resources were included in the initial appropriation.

3. The Secretary-General has prepared the present report reflecting the estimated requirements of the Monitoring Mechanism for the period of the mandate to 10 January 2017 which amount to \$4.3 million. These requirements include a staffing complement of 43 temporary positions and would represent a charge against the contingency fund for the biennium 2016-2017.

4. The Committee may wish to note that pending the consideration of the present report, the initial requirements of the Monitoring Mechanism are being met through a commitment authority of the Secretary-General under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 70/250 on unforeseen extraordinary expenses.

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

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.