

Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

25 November 2015

Request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

(ACABQ report: A/70/7/Add.20; Secretary-General's report: A/70/403)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/70/7/Add.20) on the request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.

The report of the Secretary-General contains an estimated budget for the biennium 2016-2017 and a request for a subvention for the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers in the amount of \$25.15 million for 2016, which represent the full 2016 budget minus an existing voluntary pledge amounting to \$546,400.

The Secretary-General's report also contains an update made on the judicial proceedings. The Advisory Committee notes that judicial activity is foreseen for several more years beyond the current financial period.

With regard to the financial position of the Chambers in 2015, the Advisory Committee notes that the commitment of \$12.1 million authorised by the General Assembly to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component has been fully drawn upon at the end of October 2015.

The Advisory Committee recalls that, in accordance with resolution 57/228 A of the General Assembly, the expenses of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers should be borne by voluntary contributions from the international community.

The Committee is of the view, therefore, that a decision to appropriate almost the full amount of the budget of the international component for 2016 would undermine the voluntary nature of the current funding arrangements and related fundraising efforts. However, given the current funding challenges faced by the Extraordinary Chambers and the need to ensure expeditious conclusion of the remaining cases before it, the Advisory Committee considers that for 2016 the United Nations should maintain the level of its support at the level approved by the General Assembly in 2015.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.