

**Statement of the Chairman**

**Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

**16 December 2015**

**Request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone**

*(ACABQ report A/70/7/Add.30; related report: A/70/565)*

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/70/7/Add. 30) on the request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone.

In his report, the Secretary-General requests a subvention of \$6,034,800 for the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone to contribute to the funding of its resource requirements for 2016-2017 (A/70/565).

Pursuant to Article 3 of the Agreement, the expenses of the Residual Special Court shall be borne by voluntary contributions from the international community. However, in his letter dated 14 October 2015, the Secretary-General noted that the prevailing financial situation of the Residual Special Court was such that it would be unable to continue its work beyond March 2016. The Secretary-General indicated that the subvention proposal would be a temporary measure and that he would consult to seek and propose more comprehensive solutions to the Security Council and to the General Assembly.

In view of the projected funding shortfall for 2016, the uncertain nature of outstanding pledges and commitments and the urgent need for resources to ensure the continued operations of the Residual Special Court, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$2,438,500 to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 as a bridging financing mechanism, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of the commitment authority and on the result of his consultations with stakeholders to propose more comprehensive funding solutions, during the main part of its seventy-first session.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

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**Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the  
Human Rights Council at its twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions  
and twenty-third special session**

*(ACABQ report A/70/7/Add.28, related report A/70/563)*

Mr Chairman,

The Advisory Committee welcomes the efforts made to improve the presentation of the report and encourages the Secretary-General to continue such efforts. The Advisory Committee is recommending approval of the proposed resources except for the establishment of one P-3 post for a Web Content Management Officer, in view of the existing capacity. The Committee also comments on the need for reliable information on the standard unit costs of interpretation and processing of documentation at each duty station in order to properly assess proposals for resource requirements.

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**Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget  
implications and revised estimates**

*(ACABQ report A/70/7/Add.34; related report A/C.5/70/19 and Corr. 1)*

**Revised estimates: effect of changes in  
rates of exchange and inflation**

*(related report: A/70/603)*

**Revised estimates for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the  
International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Residual  
Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals: effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation**

*(related report: A/70/606)  
(ACABQ report A/70/7/Add.35)*

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates (A/70/7/Add.34).

At the time of the Committee's consideration of the advance version of the Secretary-General's report, a number of revised estimates and programme budget implications remained pending relating to resource requirements. As the final version of the report is now available, the Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide an update to the General Assembly of the list of charges to the contingency fund to reflect the remaining recommendations of the Committee. In addition, the Advisory Committee further reiterates its view that the contingency fund is an essential budgetary instrument for addressing additional resource requirements and emphasizes the need to adhere to the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, namely resolutions 41/213 and 42/211. The Committee stresses that, in the event of any constraints faced, the Secretary-General should bring these matters to the attention of the General Assembly in a timely manner.

Mr. Chairman,

I would now like to draw your attention to the Advisory Committee's report on the Revised estimates as a result of the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation for the biennium 2016-2017 as they pertain to the Secretariat; the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda; the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia; and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals: effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation.

The Advisory Committee has no objection to the revised estimates as reflected in the reports of the Secretary-General and trusts that updated recosting calculations will be provided to the General Assembly, using the most recent vacancy rates for all categories of staff and in line with the standard regular budget recosting methodology.

Thank you, Mr, Chairman