

Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4 November 2015

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Thematic cluster II: sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels

(ACABQ report: A/70/7/Add.12; related report: A/70/348/Add.2)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/70/7/Add.12) on the Secretary-General's resource proposals for 2016 for the 14 special political missions (SPMs) under thematic cluster II, sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels.

The recommendation of the Advisory Committee would entail a reduction of \$121,000 in the proposed requirements for the Panel of Experts on Liberia for 2016 (see A/70/7/Add.12, para.12). Subject to this recommendation, as well as its recommendations in the forthcoming main report (A/70/7/Add.10), the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Secretary-General's proposal for the resource requirements for 2016 for the 14 special political missions under thematic class II.

No provision under consultants is proposed for 2016 under cluster II. The Advisory Committee welcomes the efforts made to reduce reliance on external consultants as well as to recruit experts with the requisite professional and language skills.

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first of the reports of the Advisory Committee on resource requirements of SPMs for 2016, let me say a few words on the presentation of the reports of the Committee. Issues of a cross-cutting nature pertaining to all special political missions will be contained in the main report of the Advisory Committee (A/70/7/Add.10), while the budget proposals for thematic clusters I to III and UNAMA and UNAMI will be presented in its related reports (A/70/7/Add.11-15). The budget proposal of the Secretary-General for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen (cluster I) is contained in a separate addendum (A/70/348/Add.6) and the report of the Committee will be issued as document A/70/7/Add.16.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.