

<Kindly Check Against Delivery>

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP BY  
MR. JUSTIN KISOKA, MINISTER COUNSELOR AT THE PERMANENT  
MISSION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEMS 144, 145 AND 146, IN  
PARTICULAR ON THE SECOND PERFORMANCE REPORTS FOR  
BIENNIAL 2014-2015 AND BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2016-2017 ON THE  
BUDGET OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS FOR  
RWANDA AND YUGOSLAVIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL  
RESIDUAL MECHANISM RESPECTIVELY AT THE MAIN PART OF  
THE SEVENTIETH SESSION THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY-FIFTH COMMITTEE OF**

**[New York, 15 December 2015]**

**Mr. Chairman,**

I have the honour to speak on the behalf of the African Group on agenda items 144, 145 and 146, in particular on the second performance report for year 2014-2015 and budget proposal for the biennium 2016-2017 for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and Yugoslavia and the International Residual Mechanism.

The African Group would like to thank Mr. Johannes Huisman, Director in the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairperson of the ACABQ, for introducing related reports on these agenda.

At the outset, allow us to align our statement with that just delivered by the representative of the Republic of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Group has further taken note on the observations, comments and recommendation by the Board of Auditors including those related to completion strategies and records and archive management in ICTR, delays in closing the tribunal activities, out-of-date statistics used for transfer of the archive and records and delay in the preparations of the plans for transfer of the archives and records by the ITY as well as updates of IPSAS implementation and other financial indicators in the Residual Mechanism.

The Group would like to emphasize the need for timely implementation of the Board of Auditors' recommendations and we look

forward for details clarification on a number of specific elements outlined by the Board during the informal consultations.

Turning to the performance for the period of 2014-2015, the African Group has taken note of the information outlined in the second performance reports of the three entities with revised appropriation in the total amount of US\$ 432.05 million reflecting the decrease of about US\$ 22.00 million from the revised appropriations.

The Group will be examining elements of variances and seek specific clarification on budget performance as connected to mandate implementation of each of the entity, including the implementation of the completion strategy by the ITY, liquidation process by the ICTR as well as the transitional measures to the mechanism and national jurisdictions.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Turning to the budget proposals for 2016-2017, Our Group has taken note of the proposed resources in the amount of US\$ 2.5 million for ICTR, US\$ 113.61 million for ITY and US\$ 140.9 million for Residual Mechanism. The Group notes that the proposed budget for ICTR will cover the liquidation activities for the period of 5 months.

The Group has carefully studied the Secretary General's proposals and will seek specific clarifications on many of the elements as connected to implementation of mandates in particular the resource request for the liquidation of ICTR and transitional measures to the Residual Mechanism.

The Group has also carefully studied the comments, observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee and we would like to register our disagreement on all the conclusions related to ICTR liquidation budget.

The Group would like to emphasize the need for careful attention to handle the liquidation exercise to ensure the work of the ICTR carried out in the past 21 years is preserved.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Turning to the Residual Mechanism the Group would like to emphasize the need for timely completion of the construction of the new facilities in Arusha branch, so as to enable the occupancy in a timely manner and to avoid cost overrun. The Group will also carefully examine a number of elements in the Mechanism including those related to recruitment, procurement, oversight as well as other administrative elements including the merit of double hatting arrangement in the tribunals and the Mechanism.

The Group will present specific proposal on these issues with the aim of bringing more efficiency in each of the branch of Mechanism.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In conclusion, the African Group would like to reaffirm our appreciation to the governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Kingdom of The Netherlands for their continued support to the work of the Tribunals and the Residual Mechanism.

The Group would also like to pay special tribute to all staff members who contributed to the work of the ICTR since inception and we expect the United Nations system organizations will to the extent possible absorb a number of departing staff members in line with their established recruitment procedures.

The Group would like to re-assure you of our readiness to participate in constructive deliberations on this important agenda item.

I thank you, **Mr. Chairman**