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Agenda item 132

**Financial reports and audited financial statements,
and reports of the Board of Auditors**

FIFTH COMMITTEE

**Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the recommendations of
the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for
the financial period ended 30 June 2016 (A/71/801)**

Statement by

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Madam Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2016 (A/71/801).
2. Section II of the report provides additional information in response to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in A/71/5 (Vol. II), chap. II.
3. The report takes into account the request of the General Assembly (paragraph 7 of resolution 70/238 C) to indicate an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board. It also includes the priorities for their implementation, the status of implementation and the office responsible. This information is provided for all outstanding recommendations – new ones contained in the current report of the Board and old ones from previous financial periods.
4. For the period ended June 30 2016, recommendations marked as “High priority” relate to: the actuarial valuation of employee benefits liabilities; workplans of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations; the preparation of annual financial reports of welfare and recreation committees; asset and property management; standard costing of property, plant and equipment; the review of useful lives of assets; air operations; medical services as well as environmental management and waste management.
5. In the area of acquisition planning and procurement management, the Board recommended that the procurement officers and requisitioners improve the tracking, monitoring and reporting of procurement procedures. As regards the management of human resources and in particular the use of consultants and individual contractors, the Board recommended that the Administration support missions in determining whether the engagement of external consultants and individual contractors is required or whether such expertise is available within the Organization, and to develop a long-term strategy should the existing in-house capacity not found.
6. For the periods ended in June 2014 and June 2015, high priority recommendations addressed budget formulation and management; asset management and

monitoring practices; acquisition planning; inventory management; rotation of strategic deployment stocks; travel management; and review of the requirements for unmanned aerial vehicle systems. High priority recommendations also included addressing delays in procurement and information security and utilization of ICT assets. Regarding the global field support strategy, high priority recommendations relate to the governance, mainstreaming and cost-benefit analysis of the strategy.

Madam Chair,

7. I am pleased to report that all recommendations have been accepted by the Administration, and each one has been subject to a thorough review and scrutiny. As of February 2017, more than 80 per cent of the recommendations issued by the Board for the previous three financial periods had been implemented -that is 116 out of 143, 17 were in progress and 10 had been overtaken by events.
8. I would like to recognize and thank the Board of Auditors for the constructive manner in which it has engaged with the Secretariat in the performance of its oversight responsibilities.

Madam Chair,

9. The Administration is ready to respond to any questions from the distinguished Delegates, in respect to the report of the Secretary-General, during the informal consultations. Thank you, Madam Chair.