

\*\*\* CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY \*\*\*

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**Agenda item 134**  
**Programme Budget for the biennium 2016-2017**

**Revised estimates under section 7, International Court of Justice**  
**(A/71/560)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by

**Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas**  
**Assistant Secretary-General, Controller**

**2 December 2016**

Madam Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

1. By an order dated 31 May 2016, the International Court of Justice decided to arrange for an expert opinion in the case of the maritime delimitation in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Two independent experts were appointed by the President of the Court on 16 June 2016, and the Registry took the necessary steps in terms of secretarial arrangements and the practical organization of their mission.

2. The estimated requirements to carry out the Court's order amount to \$170,000. It is proposed that these requirements will be met as follows:

- (i) \$50,000, which was already provided by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/250 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for 2016-2017. The related appropriation will be sought in the context of the first performance report.

- (ii) \$120,000, which is requested in the present revised estimates under section 7, International Court of Justice.

3. The proposed resources would provide for payment for the fees of two experts, as well as for travel costs for on-site visits, consultations with Members of the Court and attendance at Court hearings in The Hague related to the case. The proposed resources would also provide for payment of on-site travel costs of two Registry officials who have been appointed to provide secretarial assistance to the experts.

I thank you, Madam Chair.