



Agenda item 134
Programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

**Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives
authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council
(A/71/365/Add.3)**

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller
9 December 2016

Madame Chair,
Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce addendum 3 of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budgets for 2017 in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council under thematic clusters III as contained in document A/71/365/Add.3.
2. The missions grouped under thematic cluster III support the delivery of mandates of United Nations offices, peacebuilding support offices, integrated offices and commissions. The report contains the proposed budgets for eight of the nine missions grouped under this thematic cluster. The proposed resources for the United Nations Mission in Colombia, will be presented in a separate addendum.
3. In 2016, these SPMs continued to contribute to the overall objective of conflict prevention and maintaining international peace and security through early warning, mediation, preventive diplomacy, support to electoral processes, good offices, and peacebuilding efforts.

4. The proposed resources for 2017 for special political missions presented in this report amounts to \$220.1 million, an overall increase of \$28.6 million compared to the approved resources for 2016. It will be recalled that the United Nations Support Mission in Libya was temporarily relocated to Tunis during 2014 following a significant deterioration of the security situation in Libya. In line with Security Council resolutions 2259 (2015), 2273 (2016) and 2291 (2016), the mission is encouraged to re-establish a permanent presence in Libya through a phased return with effect from 2016, which contributes to the increases in resource requirements under this cluster.

5. Taking into account the estimated combined over-expenditure of \$1.4 million for 2016 for these missions, which is funded through a commitment authority concurred to by the ACABQ, for the office of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, it is requested that the General Assembly approve the requirements of these missions in the amount of \$221.5 million.

Madame Chair, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on this item.

Thank you.