



Agenda item 134
Proposed 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

Thematic cluster II: sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism

Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 under sections 27, Humanitarian assistance, and 36, Staff assessment

(United Nations Monitoring Mechanism)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller
6 March 2017

Madame Chair,
Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed resources amounting to \$3,278,800, net of staff assessment, for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism for the period from 1 November 2016 to 16 November 2017, submitted as document A/71/365/Add.8.

2. On 7 August 2015, the Security Council adopted resolution [2235 \(2015\)](#), establishing for a period of one year the Joint Investigative Mechanism. The mandate of the Mechanism was expected to be terminated on 31 October 2016, in accordance with the letter dated 21 September 2016 from the President of the Council addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2016/807). No resources were therefore included in the revised appropriation approved by the General Assembly for the biennium 2016-2017.

Subsequently, the Security Council, by resolutions [2314 \(2016\)](#) and [2319 \(2016\)](#), renewed the mandate of the Mechanism until 16 November 2017, resulting in the present resource proposal.

3. The resources for the Joint Investigative Mechanism for the period from 1 November 2016 to 16 November 2017 amount to \$3,278,800, and include a staffing complement of 26 positions which remains unchanged from the previous period.

Pending the decision of the General Assembly on the present proposal, the requirements for the period from 1 November 2016 to 31 March 2017, amounting to \$961,900, have been funded under the Secretary-General's commitment authority relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. This amount is included in the appropriation requested in paragraph 19 (b) of the report.

Madam Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

4. Now I would like to turn to another subject under the agenda item and introduce the report of the Secretary-General contained in document [A/71/761](#), on the revised estimates for 2017 for the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism related to the delivery of humanitarian assistance to people in need in the Syrian Arab Republic. The Monitoring Mechanism was established by Security Council resolution 2165 of 14 July 2014 to monitor cross-border humanitarian operations of the United Nations and partner agencies delivering aid to people in need in the Syrian Arab Republic, with a mandate that was extended until 10 January 2017. As such, no resources were included in the revised appropriation approved by the General Assembly for the biennium 2016-2017.

5. On 21 December 2016, by resolution 2332, the Security Council extended the mandate of the Monitoring Mechanism until 10 January 2018.

6. The report of the Secretary-General presently before the Committee contains the resource proposals for the Monitoring Mechanism for the period until December 2017, amounting to \$3,890,000, net of staff assessment, and includes a staffing complement of 42 temporary positions. These requirements would represent a charge against the contingency fund.

Madame Chair, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on these items.