

**Statement of the Chairman**

**Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

**13 December 2016**

**Performance reports for ICTR, ICTY and IRM for the biennium 2016-2017**

*(ACABQ report A/71/671; related reports A/71/577, A/71/578 and A/71/579)*

Madam Chairperson,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/71/671) on the final performance report on the budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and first performance reports of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2016-2017.

With regard to the liquidation of ICTR, the Advisory Committee notes with concern that the estimated final level of expenditure of the Tribunal for the biennium 2016-2017 amounting to \$5.8 million will be almost three times as much as the level of the appropriation.

The Advisory Committee regrets the magnitude of the write-offs and overpayments, which, in its view, could have been partially avoided and considers that measures should have been in place to ensure their prompt recovery prior to the Tribunal's liquidation and anticipated separation of staff.

The Advisory Committee also notes with regret that the explanations provided for extending the duration of the Tribunal's liquidation phase, and on the related overexpenditures, has not been made known to the General Assembly until the latest report of the Secretary-General (A/71/577) issued in November 2016, while the decision to extend the liquidation period had been taken much earlier in the year.

The Committee considers that as a matter of standard practice, information on any significant difficulties encountered by the Secretary-General in the liquidation of UN entities, should be provided to the General Assembly as soon as these difficulties become apparent in order to facilitate the implementation of corrective measures and to protect the resources of the Organization.

The Secretary-General proposes to transfer and charge the overexpenditures of ICTR (\$3.7 million) to the budget of IRM for the biennium 2016-2017, in excess of its initial appropriation.

Turning to the first performance report of ICTY, the Committee notes that the projected variances include an increase of almost \$3.8 million related to the exchange rates which is attributable mainly to the weakening of the US dollar against the Euro. The Advisory Committee trusts that the most recent figure will be used to determine the forecasted exchange rates and that relevant information will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of the consideration of the present report.

Finally, in terms of the first performance report of IRM, the Secretary-General indicates that technical adjustments would result in a decrease in requirements amounting to over \$1.6 million. The revised appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017 would amount to approximately \$135.7 million.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson