

**Statement of the Chairman of the
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

8 May 2017

**Triennial review of the rates and standards for reimbursement to Member States for
Contingent-owned equipment**

(ACABQ report A/71/872/Add.14; related reports: A/71/802 and A/C.5/71/20)

**Special measures for protection from
sexual exploitation and abuse: a new approach**

(ACABQ report A/71/867; related report A/7818 & Add.1)

Madam Chairperson,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/71/872) on the Triennial review of the rates and standards for reimbursement to Member States for Contingent-owned equipment, as well as on Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse: a new approach (A/71/867).

The 2017 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment was convened from 16-27 January 2017 to conduct a comprehensive review of reimbursement rates and to update the major equipment, self-sustainment and medical support services categories. In his report (A/71/802), the Secretary-General indicates that implementing the recommendations of the 2017 Working Group would require additional resources estimated at \$13.595 million period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the recommendations of the 2017 Working Group, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/71/802). The Advisory Committee also recommends approval of the recommendation of the Chair of the 2017 Working Group that a pre-session organizational meeting of the 2020 Working Group be held in October 2019, prior to the substantive session, to be convened in January 2020.

Madam Chairperson,

With regard to Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, the Advisory Committee is of the view that most of the measures set out in paragraph 79 of the report of the Secretary-General constitute policy matters to be decided by the General Assembly. The Committee's observations and recommendations are therefore mostly related to the estimated resource requirements and related funding arrangements set out in the addendum to the report.

With regard to the programme budget for 2016/17, the Secretary-General's states his intention to use the commitment authority granted to him on limited budgetary discretion under resolution [70/248](#) to absorb the costs of four temporary positions in the Office of the Special Coordinator for the last six months of the biennium (1 July-31 December 2017). The

Advisory Committee trusts that, should the Secretary-General decide to exercise that authority, he will ensure strict application of the nine principles contained in resolution [60/283](#) of the General Assembly and also provide full justifications on the use of those resources in the second performance report for the biennium 2016-2017.

With regard to the four Victims' Rights Advocate (P-5) positions in peacekeeping missions, the Advisory Committee was informed that, should the General Assembly approve the functions of those positions, proposals for dedicated positions would be included in future budget submissions. For the 2017/18 financial period, the Advisory Committee would be informed of any decision that may be taken by the Controller to authorize the establishment of the four temporary positions in question and to absorb the related requirements within the approved resources. Details would be provided in the performance report for the 2017/18 period. Furthermore, any proposals that the Secretary-General may wish to make for the establishment of the positions of Victims' Rights Advocate (P-5) would have to be included in the 2018/19 proposed budgets of the relevant missions, for consideration by the General Assembly during its second resumed seventy-second session.

The Advisory Committee emphasises that proposals for the establishment of regular budget and peacekeeping posts and positions must be submitted for approval by the General Assembly in the context of the relevant budget documents.

Furthermore, the Advisory Committee trusts that any future proposals that the Secretary-General may submit on the Office of the Special Coordinator and/or the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate will include details on the proposed structures and rationale for their placement within the Organization, as well as on the number, grade levels, functions and reporting lines of the posts and positions proposed. Full justification for any proposed requirements should be provided, taking into account all existing resources dedicated to dealing with sexual exploitation and abuse issues across the Secretariat, as well as at other relevant United Nations system entities. Furthermore, should the Secretary-General decide to submit such a proposal for approval by the General Assembly, consideration should be given to the application of a cost-sharing formula for apportioning costs among different funding sources, as was the case for other Organization-wide initiatives such as Umoja.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.