

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**Agenda item 149**  
**Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations**  
**peacekeeping operations**

**Budget for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda for the period from**  
**1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/835)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by  
Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas  
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

3 May 2017

Madam Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the Secretary-General's budget for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda (RSCE) for 2017/18.
2. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/307, by which the Assembly decided to give the RSCE operational and managerial independence, and resolution 70/289, by which the Assembly decided to consider at its seventy-first session the question of the financing of the Regional Service Centre.
3. Since its establishment in 2010 as one of the main pillars of the global field support strategy, the RSCE remains a key element in the Secretariat's efforts to both reduce costs for field missions and improve effectiveness of operations. The RSCE, enabled by Umoja, provides shared transactional and non-location-dependent administrative services mainly related to human resources and finance, as well as transportation and movement control.
4. The RSCE provides services to more than two-thirds of all individual personnel deployed to United Nations peacekeeping and political missions. With the deployment of Umoja cluster 5 to the field and the added functionality to automate payroll processing, the RSCE is providing payroll services for all missions in Africa that the Centre does not already support, pending the

consideration and implementation of the Global Service Delivery Model. During the 2017/18 period, the Regional Service Centre is also expected to provide support for the closure of UNOCI and UNMIL.

5. The proposed 2017/18 budget amounts to \$37.3 million, a decrease of 5.0 per cent compared to the approved resources for 2016/17. The Centre is also proposing as 1 July 2017 to add MINURSO (Western Sahara) to the portfolio of its clients. Owing to the inclusion of MINURSO, the increase in RSCE's existing client base and the temporary provision of the payroll services, strengthening of the RSCE staffing establishment is proposed through the establishment of 18 posts and positions.

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