

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

3 May 2017

**Proposed budget for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda for the period
from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018**

(ACABQ report: A/71/836/Add.9; related Secretary-General's report: A/71/835)

Madam Chairperson,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/71/836/Add.9) on the proposed budget for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda for the 2017/18 period. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee would entail a reduction of \$3,771,200 to the Secretary-General's proposed budget.

The Secretary-General proposes to add the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) as a client mission of RSCE. The Advisory Committee recalls in this regard that the Secretary-General is to submit to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session a report on the global service delivery model. It is also proposed to add payroll services for five additional missions. While the Advisory Committee does not object to the interim arrangement to support the implementation of Umoja, it recalls that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/248 A, any changes to the existing and future service delivery model must be approved by the General Assembly.

In his report, the Secretary-General proposes to restructure RSCE's cross-functional service lines along the three categories of personnel: international staff,

national staff, and uniformed personnel. While the Advisory Committee has no objections to the proposed restructuring, it trusts that the restructuring will result in efficiency gains. The Advisory Committee also reiterates that the Secretary-General should refine the scalability model to include the TMICC and the RICTS.

Madam Chairperson,

The Secretary-General also proposes new governance arrangements for RSCE. Considering the General Assembly's decision regarding the operational and managerial independence of RSCE and that RSCE report directly to DFS, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to refine the governance arrangements and provide an update in his next report on RSCE.

In accordance with its recommendations in its report on MINURSO, the Advisory Committee recommends against the establishment in RSCE of eight proposed national General Service posts which are recommended by the Committee for reinstatement in MINURSO. The Committee does not object to the transfer of two posts for payroll-related functions from MINURSO to RSCE.

The Committee makes other recommendations under post resources and objects of expenditure under operational costs. The Committee's recommendations on the actions to be taken by the General Assembly for RSCE are set out in section V of its report.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.