

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICA GROUP BY MR ABDALLAH BACHAR BONG, COUNSELLOR AT THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CHAD TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 152: FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN COTE D'IVOIRE, AT THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(New York, 14 December 2016)

1. Thank you Madame Chair for giving me the floor,
2. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the African Group on agenda item 152 entitled Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.
3. Allow me to begin by thanking Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, the Assistant Secretary General, the Controller as well as Mr. Babu Sene, Vice-chair of the Advisory Committee for introducing the respective reports on this agenda item.

Madame. Chair,

4. The African Group recalls that on 28 April 2016, the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of UNOCI for a final period until 30 June 2017 in its resolution 2284 (2016), which resulted in the need for the Secretary General to submit a revised budget for the consideration of the General Assembly.
5. The Africa group takes note of the revised budget for UNOCI for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 which amounts to

\$178,874,900, representing a decrease of 55.6 per cent when compared with the appropriation of \$402,794,300 for 2015/16.

In this regard our group will carefully examine the budget proposal of the Secretary General as well as the recommendations of the ACABQ with a view to ensure that adequate resources are made available to facilitate the proper drawdown and closure of the Mission which include settlement of outstanding claims, supporting the national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process, training activities, disposal of assets as well as the communication infrastructure among other activities.

Madame Chair,

6. The group notes with appreciation the ongoing trainings and capacity-building for the enhancement of the professional competencies of UNOCI staff, with a particular focus on national staff members as well as the Job fair activities to ensure that the local staff are absorbed by other competent agencies.

7. The group will also be interested in learning about the compliance with the relevant rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, the United Nations environmental and waste management policy and procedures, as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 31 of its resolution 70/286.

8. The African group will remain committed, to engage in a constructive manner, on this agenda Item.

I thank you