



Check against delivery

**Administrative and Budgetary Committee of the General Assembly
(Fifth Committee)**

**Report on the results of the survey to support the review of the standard rate of
reimbursement to troop- and police-contributing countries**

Introductory remarks by

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Mr. Chairman,

It is an honour to introduce the Secretary-General's report on the *Results of the survey to support the review of the standard rate of reimbursement to troop- and police-contributing countries*, (document A/72/728).

Let me start by giving the context and background of the report. Based on recommendations of a Senior Advisory Group (SAG), General Assembly resolution 67/261 established a framework to inform the Assembly's periodical consideration of the rate of personnel reimbursement to troops- and police-contributing countries. A survey of common and essential additional costs incurred by a sample of 10 countries is a key part of this framework. By the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the SAG's recommendation that once a new reimbursement rate was established, there should be a full review, with data gathered from a newly selected sample, every four years.

In its resolution 68/281, in initially establishing a new rate of reimbursement for contingent personnel, the Assembly set up a series of phased increases in the rate of reimbursement. Today the rate is \$1,410 per person per month, essentially until it is further revised by the General Assembly. The report now before the Fifth Committee includes the results of the latest survey of the costs of personnel contributed to peacekeeping by troops and police contributors. The report reflects the data received from the 10 troops- and police-contributing countries that participated in this second review.

Mr. Chairman,

The survey was conducted in full compliance with a number of key aspects of the framework set down by the SAG and the General Assembly in its resolution 67/261. In the first instance, the 10 countries that made up the survey represent more than 50 per cent of overall contingent personnel contributions over the three years prior to the survey. As also required, the participating countries represent four separate World Bank income groups in proportion to the overall contribution of personnel to United Nations peacekeeping by countries in those income groups. Consisting of one high income, one upper-middle income, four lower-middle income, and four low income countries, the survey was undertaken with the full participation of Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Africa, and Uruguay.

Also in accordance with the approved framework, the survey focused on five mandated categories of costs – personnel allowances; personal kit and equipment; pre-deployment medical expenses; pre-deployment inland transportation; and United Nations-specific pre-deployment training. After receiving preliminary responses to the questionnaire requesting data, experts from the Secretariat visited each of the countries participating in the survey. In providing assistance to participating countries, the visits aimed to ensure completeness and consistency in the approach used to collect the data in the survey, and allowed for more scrutinized input to this report.

To ensure a rigorous approach to the collection of data, and time to complete the survey, June 2017 was used as the base month for the survey. The report gives the weighted average monthly cost across the ten survey countries. In recognising the size of the contribution of each country to the overall survey, this measurement provides a more accurate picture of the typical costs for contributing countries than a simple average. The weighted average across the five cost categories would amount to \$1,428 per person per month, effectively for contingents that were participating in United Nations peacekeeping in June 2017.

Considering the concerns of the participating countries surrounding confidentiality and sensitivity of the data, and in line with the methodology recommended by the SAG, the report does not identify the costs associated with any particular country. In accordance with this approach, the data is present anonymously in this report, and throughout the process all information given by the sample countries was handled with confidentiality.

To ensure that the report presents data on a comparable basis to the extent possible, the Secretariat worked with the participants to isolate specific costs common to all or most survey countries. Information on a number of costs, other than the five cost categories mandated for the survey, are also reflected in a separate section of this report.

Finally, the report dedicates a section to cost data related to female deployment. It highlights that while the questionnaire requested specific information on costs associated with deploying female peacekeepers, and although nine (9) of the 10 participating countries deploy female uniformed personnel, very few costs specific to the deployment of female personnel were incurred.

Before I conclude, I wish to express gratitude for the support the Secretariat and visiting teams received from the survey sample of 10 countries. The active participation, engagement and openness of all countries highlights the importance these countries attach to the survey process and the reimbursement framework in its entirety. Following on from the significant changes invoked through last year's Contingent-Owned Equipment Working Group, it also proves, once again, the centrality of reimbursement to the peacekeeping partnership.

In closing, I would like to emphasize that the Secretariat stands ready to respond to any questions that you may have regarding the report.

Thank you.