

Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

11 March 2019

**Status of implementation of the information and communications
technology strategy for the United Nations**

(ACABQ report: A/73/759; related report A/73/384)

Madam Chair,

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Advisory Committee on progress in the implementation of the ICT strategy.

Madam Chair,

The Advisory Committee welcomes the overall progress made in the implementation of the ICT strategy.

The Committee notes that the next progress report of the Secretary-General will mark the end of the five-year implementation period of the ICT strategy. It is recommending that the Secretary-General provide a detailed update on the implementation status of each of the 20 ICT strategy projects, and also conduct an inventory of ICT capacities and expenditures of each Secretariat entity to provide a baseline at the end of the five-year period.

The upcoming milestone will also mark the first year of operations of the reorganized OICT under the management reform. The Committee is recommending that the Secretary-General provide a preliminary analysis of the of the new structures and the dual reporting

arrangements of the Office, as well as information on the direction of ICT activities for the subsequent 5-year-period.

Madam Chair,

Turning now to the Committee's comments and observations on specific aspects of the ICT strategy, the Advisory Committee has made observations and recommendations on numerous subjects. In the interest of time, I will highlight some of them only.

With regard to the ICT governance framework, the Advisory Committee is concerned by the gaps that remain in the design and implementation of the framework and trusts that the Secretary-General will update his bulletin on the organization of OICT to reflect the changes made under the management reform.

For UMOJA mainstreaming, the Advisory Committee stresses the need to ensure that mainstreaming activities are completed on time, so as to avoid any gap between the completion of the Umoja project by December 2019 and the mainstreaming of the project team.

Regarding information security, the Advisory Committee continues to be concerned by the slow progress in reducing the level of fragmentation which impedes progress in addressing information security issues in a comprehensive manner. The Committee reiterates its observations and recommendations regarding the need for Secretariat-wide central control over information security in compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and other administrative issuances.

As it relates to Global sourcing and asset management, the Committee further reiterates its recommendation regarding the need for further analysis and comparisons of the

cost savings and economies of scale achieved for the equipment and services procured through global systems contracts.

Thank you, Madam Chair.