

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**Agenda item 150**  
**Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations**  
**peacekeeping operations**

**Overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget**  
**performance for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 and budget for the period**  
**from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (A/73/776)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by  
Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan  
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

8 May 2019

Madam Chair,  
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations, under **agenda item 150** as listed in today's journal.
2. Following the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the report continues to focus on new developments, policy changes and management challenges facing peacekeeping operations, as well as cross-cutting initiatives.

*Budget performance for 2017/18*

3. In 2017/18, \$7.4 billion was spent in peacekeeping operations, including all missions, UNSOS, UNLB, RSCE and the support account. Compared to the approved budget of \$7.5 billion, it shows an overall implementation rate of 99.0 per cent. The unencumbered balance of \$73.4 million in 2017/18 reflects mainly: (a) the delayed deployment of uniformed personnel and the non-deployment of helicopters in UNMISS; and (b) the reconfiguration of the air fleet, lower

freight costs and lower than anticipated implementation of programmatic activities in MINUSCA.

4. The financial performance of peacekeeping operations continues to show improvement, reflecting stronger management controls and the improved examination of year-end obligations.

5. During the reporting period, a number of Security Council decisions had a significant impact on the mandates of peacekeeping operations, in particular: (a) the additional 900 troops authorized for MINUSCA to improve, in particular, the protection of civilians mandate; (b) the provision of support to the electoral process by MONUSCO; (c) the increased deployment in UNMISS of uniformed personnel toward the ceiling of 17,000 troops; and (d) the additional measures to enhance the safety and security of personnel in MINUSMA.

Madam Chair,

*Budget proposals for 2019/20*

6. During 2019/20, the focus of peacekeeping will remain on Africa and the Middle East. The regional, political, operational and security environments of missions in those areas are expected to remain difficult and volatile, with a sustained need for high levels of deployment and high intensity of operational and political engagement.

7. The resources proposed for peacekeeping operations for 2019/20, including all missions, UNSOS, UNLB, RSCE and the support account, amount to \$6.6 billion, a decrease of 5.4 per cent (\$382 million) compared to 2018/19. The reduced resource requirements relate mainly to UNAMID and MINUJUSTH, as well as the adjustment of the posture of MONUSCO in the post-electoral period. Resource requirements for UNAMID and MINUJUSTH are proposed for a six-month period, from 1 July to 31 December 2019, until the Security Council takes its decision on the mission mandates. In accordance with established budgetary procedures, the Secretary-General will review the financial implications for the 2019/20 period arising from the final decisions of the Security Council and revert to the General Assembly, if necessary.

8. Excluding UNAMID and MINUJUSTH, the budget proposals for continuing peacekeeping missions with full-year budget proposals amount to \$6.3 billion for the 2019/20 period, which represents a net increase of 2.2 per cent (or \$133 million) compared with the apportionment for the 2018/19 period. The increase relates mainly to three budget proposals: (a) MINUSMA (\$75

million); (b) UNMISS (\$72 million); and (c) the support account for peacekeeping operations (\$56 million). The increased requirements for MINUSMA and UNMISS reflect mainly higher than expected deployment of uniformed personnel and lower vacancy rates for international staff. The increased requirements for the support account include higher salary-related costs, the transfer of Umoja maintenance and support costs for peacekeeping operations previously budgeted in UNLB and the peacekeeping share of the proposed global shared service centres, which the General Assembly by its decision 73/547 B deferred until its seventy-fourth session.

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