

Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

22 May 2019

Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)

(ACABQ report: A/73/755/Add.15; Related reports: A/73/633, A/73/826)

Madam Chair,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/73/755/Add.15) on the Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).

With regard to staffing proposals, the Advisory Committee is recommending against the establishment of the proposed Transition Advisor post at the P-4 level, given the similarity of its functions with those of the proposed Senior Transition Advisor post. The Committee is also recommending against establishment of the proposed UNV position for a Planning and Coordination Officer in the Office of the DSRSG for Protection and Operations in Goma, in view of the existing capacity of the Office. The Committee welcomes the efforts made to build national capacity and nationalisation of posts, and encourages the mission to continue to seek further opportunities to transfer capacity to national staff.

Concerning operational costs, the Advisory Committee is recommending further reductions under official travel, facilities and infrastructure and ground transportation, in view of the downsizing of the Mission and pattern of expenditure.

The Advisory Committee's report provides information on a new memorandum of understanding signed between the Secretariat and the UNV programme with effect on 1 January 2019, which includes, inter alia, an increase of programmatic support costs from 8.0 to 13.0 per cent. The Advisory Committee has requested the Secretary-General to provide further information to the General Assembly on the financial implications of that agreement.

Thank you, Madam Chair.