

Statement of the Chairman
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4 May 2020

**Report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations
peacekeeping operations and report of the Secretary-General on the
implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning
United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended
30 June 2019**

(ACABQ report A/74/806; related reports: A/74/5 (Vol. II) and A/74/709)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report (A/74/806) on the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2019.

With regard to the military component of the peacekeeping operations, the Committee considers that certain observations and recommendations of the Board regarding administrative and budget-related matters should be implemented, while noting that certain observations and recommendations related, among others, to the assessment, tactical deployment and engagement of military units and assets are matters under the purview of Member States and relevant organs of the United Nations.

In the area of human resources, the Advisory Committee concurs with the recommendations of the Board and recalls its previous recommendations on this matter. The Committee considers that additional efforts are required to address the related challenges.

With regard to the after-service health insurance liabilities, the Board found a weakness in the census data provided to the actuary of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund. The Advisory Committee expresses concern about this situation and intends to request the Board to conduct a review of the after-service health insurance expenditure, so as to increase transparency and ensure compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

In its report, the Committee highlights the observations and recommendations of the Board on various other aspects of the peacekeeping operations including the financing of peacekeeping support activities. In this matter, the Committee recalls that the financing arrangements for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi and the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe reflect decisions made by the General Assembly.

As for the management of the supply chain, the Committee expresses concern regarding the absence of competitive bidding for satellite communications services over a long period of time and recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to implement the related recommendation of the Board promptly.

The Advisory Committee reiterates that every effort should be made to improve the rate and timeliness of the implementation of the Board's recommendations and recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to fully cooperate with the Board on this matter.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.