

Statement of the Chairman
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

2 December 2019

Eleventh progress report on the enterprise resource planning project
(ACABQ report A/74/7/Add.17; related reports A/74/478, A/74/153)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the enterprise resource planning project.

The Advisory Committee expresses its concern that the implementation of the full scope of the Umoja project was not completed within the approved timeline and budget, and that the report of the Secretary-General indicates that another extension of the project timeline with further escalation of project costs is required. The Advisory Committee requests the Secretary-General to provide to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report, a roadmap for the completion of the overall Umoja project and of each UE2 subproject by the end of 2020.

The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly decide that the Umoja project will be closed on 31 December 2020 and request the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure full implementation of the Umoja project by that date. The Committee stresses the need to prioritize completion of the UE2 subprojects and avoid any expansion of the project scope except for elements that are essential for the proper functioning of the system and that will not affect the timeline or costs of the

project. The Advisory Committee also recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to submit for its consideration at the main part of its seventy-fifth session, the final report on the Umoja project.

In addition, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include in the proposed programme budget for 2021, a proposal on the methodology to be applied for the estimation of Umoja costs in the maintenance period following the closure of the project.

Mr Chairman, the Advisory Committee notes the Secretary-General's statement that the project has been organizing specialized training for its staff to ensure institutional capacity to support Umoja. The Advisory Committee welcomes the progress made and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to pursue such efforts with a view to reducing the dependency of the project on outside contractors and consultants.

With regard to the proposed requirements for 2020, in view of the underexpenditure incurred in 2019, the Advisory Committee is recommending that the General Assembly reduce the proposed resources by 3 per cent.

Thank you, Mr Chairman