Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

25 November 2019

Practice of the Secretary-General in disciplinary matters and cases of possible criminal behaviour

(ACABQ report A/74/558; related report: A/74/64)

Mr Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the practice of the Secretary-General in disciplinary matters and cases of possible criminal behaviour.

With regard to the investigation of alleged misconduct, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly encourages the investigating entities to redouble their efforts to expedite disposition of cases.

In addition, the Committee notes with concern a doubling in the backlog of appeals cases against disciplinary sanctions since 2015. The Committee trusts that all efforts will be undertaken to reduce this backlog and recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to report thereon in his next report.

As regard, the implementation of the related policy framework, the Advisory Committee notes the efforts undertaken to strengthen accountability on different conduct-related matters

including through the update of policy guidance and on-going enhancements to investigation capacities. The Committee trusts that efforts will continue to improve awareness and to promptly investigate and address allegations so that accountability is ensured in cases of substantiated misconduct.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.