



Agenda item 154
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

**Overview report on the financing of peacekeeping operations:
2019/20 budget performance reports and 2021/22 budget proposals (A/75/786)**

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by
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Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

The report before the Committee provides consolidated information on the budgetary performance for the 2019/20 period and the budget proposals for the 2021/22 period. As required under General Assembly resolution 59/296, the report also provides information *inter alia* on trends in the size, composition and funding of the peacekeeping missions, relevant developments in peacekeeping operations, efforts to improve the management and functioning of peacekeeping operations and the management priorities for the coming year. The report also reflects actions taken to implement the provisions in relevant resolutions with regard to related cross cutting issues in peacekeeping operations.

The report continues to focus on new developments and policy changes that support the budget proposals. The first section of the report provides an overview of the impact of, and response to, the COVID-19 pandemic in the peacekeeping context. Sections II-X continue to be structured in line with the eight areas under the Action for Peacekeeping initiative. The rest of the report (sections XI-XVIII and annexes) continues to highlight important budgetary and

financial aspects of peacekeeping. This latter part of the report also includes the impact of decisions and responses to requests of the General Assembly, such as those relating to ‘cash - pooling’ and ‘annual assessments’ in its resolution 73/307, an update on new features in Umoja to support peacekeeping operations, as well as a liquidity analysis.

I would also like to point out that responses to some of the advance questions received have already been provided to the Committee, and we are working on getting the remaining responses to you as soon as possible.

I will now highlight a few key points on the budget performance for the 2019/20 period and the budget proposals for the 2021/22 period.

2019/20 Budget performance

The total approved budget for peacekeeping operations for the 2019/20 period was \$6.81 billion; the overall **unencumbered balance of \$99.2 million**, representing 1.5 per cent of the total expenditures, is in line with the overall trend from the past three budget periods of less than two percent variance. Out of the \$99.2 million, \$69.1 million related to UNSOS, MINUSCA and MONUSCO, and resulted primarily from lower costs for air operations and uniformed personnel. Annex II contains more details on budget performance by mission.

2021/22 Proposed budget

Turning to the proposed budgets for 2021/22, our estimates currently stand at **\$6.5 billion**. The decrease from \$6.8 billion approved in the current 2020/21 period is due mainly to the drawdown and liquidation of UNAMID and to a lesser degree to reductions in UNMISS, MONUSCO and UNSOS. The overall lower requirements are partly offset by higher requirements in MINUSCA following the Security Council decision to increase the authorized level of military and police personnel, based on Security Council resolution 2566 (2021).

The principal reasons for the variances for each mission are presented in Annex I of the report. I will highlight the main factors affecting the total resources proposed in the three major categories of expenditures.

A net \$98.5 million decrease in Military and police personnel is mainly due to: (a) the termination of the mandate of UNAMID during the 2020/21 period; (b) the lower average deployment strength of military and police personnel in UNMISS and UNIFIL; (c) expected delays in the deployment of formed police units at UNISFA; and (d) a reduction in delivery fees for rations and higher estimate for non-functional or absent contingent-owned major equipment at MINUSMA.

The overall decrease is offset in part by: (a) a higher authorized level of military and police personnel in MINUSCA based on Security Council resolution 2566 (2021); and (b) improved serviceability of contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment capabilities on the part of AMISOM troop-contributing countries, as well as increased requirements related to in-mission delivery of rations at UNSOS.

A net \$53.3 million decrease in Civilian personnel is mainly due to: (a) the termination of the mandate of UNAMID during the 2020/21 period ~~million~~ and (b) lower costs in UNMISS attributable to the proposed abolishment of international staff posts and the application of a higher vacancy rate.

The overall decrease is offset in part by increased requirements due to: (a) the revised salary scale, including at MONUSCO, MINUSMA, UNSOS and UNIFIL; (b) the application of lower vacancy rates at MINUSMA, MINUSCA and UNSOS; (c) the application of higher average grade level/step of the salary scale for national staff at MONUSCO, UNISFA and MINUSCA; and (d) an increase in the post-adjustment multiplier at UNISFA.

A net \$160.8 million decrease in Operational costs is mainly due to: (a) the termination of the mandate of UNAMID during the 2020/21 period; (b) lower costs under facilities and infrastructure, mainly due to one-time costs which were included in the approved budget for the 2020/21 period in MINUSMA and MONUSCO; lower costs of fuel and a lower number of new construction projects at UNMISS, UNSOS and MONUSCO; (c) lower

requirements for air operations at UNMISS, MONUSCO and UNSOS; (d) lower requirements for other supplies, services and equipment as a result of reduced freight costs at UNSOS; and (e) lower costs of ground transportation attributable to lower anticipated average fuel price and consumption at UNSOS and MONUSCO and no acquisition of vehicles at UNSOS.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on this item.