



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

**Budget performance for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda for the period
from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (A/75/621)**

**Budget proposal for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda for the period
from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (A/75/770)**

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by
Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

11 May 2021

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda under agenda item 154.
2. The present reports are submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/307, by which the Assembly decided to give the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe operational and managerial independence, and resolution 74/281, by which the Assembly decided to consider at its seventy-fifth session the question of the financing of the Regional Service Centre.
3. In the performance period, the Regional Service Centre incurred expenditures of \$35.4 million as compared to the approved resources of \$35.4 million, representing an implementation rate of 100 per cent, the same as the implementation rate in 2018/19. The resource performance in 2019/20 reflects increased requirements under civilian personnel (\$0.85 million), due to higher expenditures for national staff. This was offset by reduced expenditures under operational costs (\$0.85 million), with remaining balances reprioritized to cover the higher civilian personnel costs.

4. The proposed budget of \$40.7 million for the maintenance of the Regional Service Centre for the 2021/22 financial period represents an increase of 9.4 per cent compared to the 2020/21 approved budget. The increase is primarily attributable to (a) additional requirements under civilian personnel of \$3.1 million or 10.2 per cent, mainly owing to the proposed inclusion of 22 posts for the Global Procurement Support Section (GPSS) within the Regional Service Centre budget as a tenant unit of the Department of Operational Support (DOS), and estimation of national staff salaries using higher grade and step levels, and (b) an increase in operational costs of \$0.4 million or 5.9 per cent mainly due to the inclusion of GPSS and increased requirements for information and communications technology. The overall increase is offset in part by a reduction of 2 national staff posts and reduced requirements for consultancy and facilities and infrastructure.

5. As regards civilian personnel, the proposed budget presents a staffing complement of 424 posts and positions for the 2021/22 period comprising 137 international staff, 280 national staff and 7 United Nations volunteers. This reflects a net increase of 20 posts compared to the approved staffing complement in the 2020/21 period of 404 posts and positions. The increase is due to the proposed inclusion of GPSS in the Regional Service Centre with a total of 22 posts, partly offset by proposed abolishment of 2 national General Service transactional posts based on the revised scalability model. The proposed inclusion of GPSS is based on a study conducted by DOS in response to the request by the General Assembly to assess the roles and responsibilities of the Strategic Air Operations Centre, the Transportation and Movements Integrated Control Centre (TMICC) and GPSS. 15 existing GPSS posts are proposed to be transferred from current client missions (UNSOS, UNMISS, MONUSCO) and 2 posts from the support account. 5 posts which were previously allocated from UNAMID budget to GPSS but were abolished are proposed to be established. As a result of the above-mentioned study, it is also proposed to establish the Forward Support and Deployment Hub to replace the TMICC, as a tenant unit of DOS.

6. The Regional Service Centre proposes to redeploy and reassign posts between service lines to align the staffing mix and distribution with its operational needs. Furthermore, it is proposed to reclassify one P-5 post of Senior Administrative Officer (Deputy Chief) to a D-1 post, Deputy Director.

7. Over the years, the Centre has gradually expanded its client base and will service 19 client entities in the 2021/22 period, including 8 peacekeeping missions, 10 special political missions and the United Nations Office to the African Union.

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