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

Budget performance for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy for the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (A/75/642)

Budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (A/75/744)

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 United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, under agenda item 154.
- 2. For the 2019/20 period, the United Nations Logistics Base incurred expenditures of \$63.3 million as compared to the approved resources of \$63.4 million, representing an implementation rate of 99.8 per cent, as compared to 99.6 per cent for the 2018/19 period. The resource performance for the 2019/20 period reflects reduced expenditures under operational costs (\$1.2 million), primarily attributable to COVID-19-related delays in the acquisition of communications and information technology equipment and cancelled training, travel, and consultancies. This was offset by increased requirements for civilian personnel (\$1.1 million), owing primarily to the higher actual common staff costs for international and national staff, coupled with the higher actual standard step within grade for national staff.

- 3. The proposed budget of \$66.5 million for the maintenance of the United Nations Logistics Base for the 2021/22 financial period represent an increase of 7.2 per cent (\$4.5 million) compared to the approved resources of \$62.0 million for the 2020/21 period. The increased requirements are primarily attributable to the depreciation of the dollar against the euro increasing post adjustment for international staff costs, national staff salary rates and certain operational costs, offset in part by reduced requirements for communications and information technology equipment and security services.
- 4. The United Nations Logistics Base will continue to provide services to field missions in the areas of supply chain management, geospatial, information and telecommunications technologies, engineering, environmental management, and such specialized programmes as occupational health and safety. The Base will also deliver services and solutions to other Secretariat entities. The Base will continue hosting and supporting tenant units, which have direct operational reporting lines to the Departments of Peace Operations and Operational Support.

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