



**Agenda item 156**  
**Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)**

**Agenda item 167**  
**Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

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

17 May 2021

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of two peacekeeping missions under agenda items **156-MINUSCA and 167-UNMISS**.
  
2. In respect of agenda item **156**, MINUSCA in the Central African Republic, the original proposed budget of \$936.3 million for the 2021/22 period, reflects a decrease of 0.2 per cent (\$1.5 million), compared with the approved resources for the 2020/21 period. Subsequent to the submission of the budget, the Security Council, by its resolution 2566 (2021) of 12 March 2021, decided to increase the authorized size of the Mission's military component by 2,750 personnel and the police component by 940 personnel, from the current levels authorized in paragraph 27 of resolution 2552 (2020). The additional estimated resource requirements to support the deployment of the additional authorized uniformed personnel amount to \$112.4 million for the 2021/22 period. Consequently, the amended total proposed budget amounts to \$1,048.7 million, and the amendment reflects the deployment of the additional authorized uniformed personnel, under the budget lines for military contingents, United Nations police, Formed police units, petrol oil and lubricants for facilities and ground transportation, and medical services.

3. In respect of agenda item **167**, UNMISS in South Sudan, the proposed budget of \$1.1 billion for 2021/22 represents a decrease of 4.3 per cent compared with the approved resources for 2020/21. The reduced requirements are attributable mainly to the lower average deployment strength of military and formed police personnel, the proposed abolishment of 36 posts and positions in accordance with the recommendations of the civilian staffing review, lower costs for Mi-26 helicopters as a result of a change in contractual arrangements and lower fuel prices. The reduced requirements are offset in part by the application of the latest salary scales for national staff. Substantial progress towards peace has been made over the past two years in South Sudan. A cessation of hostilities agreement has held in large part since the end of 2017, a comprehensive peace agreement has been in place since September 2018 and a transitional Government was formed in February 2020, bringing major parties to Juba to participate. While full implementation of the Revitalized Agreement remains slow, it has moved in a positive direction. The changed environment has culminated in the redesignation and transfer of the administration of four of the five UNMISS protection of civilians sites to the Revitalized Transitional Government during the 2020/21 period.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on these items.

## Opening Remarks

**SRSG Nicholas Haysom**

**Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMISS**

**17 May 2021**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members of the Fifth Committee

1. I am pleased to be with you today after assuming my role as the SRSG for UNMISS in late April 2021. I am further pleased to introduce the Mission's budget for 2021-22 amounting to **\$1,128,148,100** marking a decrease of **4.3** per cent from the current fiscal year, and update you on the status of the Mission, including our vision for the strategic direction of UNMISS moving forward.
2. **The latest Security Council resolution 2567 of March 2021** renewed our mandate and set out a three-year strategic vision: to prevent a return to civil war in South Sudan; to build durable peace at the local and national levels; to support inclusive and accountable governance; and free, fair, and peaceful elections in accordance with the Revitalized Agreement. We also take note of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee's report before the Assembly.
3. There have been encouraging developments in the political and security context of South Sudan that the Mission will take advantage of and build upon the progress that have been recorded in the peace process. In this regard, the resources we have requested in this budget will help the Mission to effectively implement its mandated tasks.
4. Despite showing a slow progress on the implementation of some key aspects of the Revitalized Agreement of 2018, the peace process continues to move forward, and the **Cessation of Hostilities Agreement of 2017** remains largely in place. A transitional government comprising the signatories to the revitalized government continues to function and appointments to leadership positions at the national and state levels continue to be made.
5. Under the new mandate, UNMISS will enhance its good offices and political engagement with the parties to the Agreement to promote trust and foster a conducive environment in support of political consensus, resolution of outstanding commitments and, most importantly, the commencement of the permanent **constitution making, to support progress towards a democratic transition at the conclusion of the transitional period.**
6. We will continue to provide technical advice and support to the establishment of national institutions, building resilient and unified state institutions to end the transitional period, including to enable the organisation of **national elections and to establish transitional justice mechanisms.** In doing so, we will support the Government to build and strengthen security institutions and a transition to a state with more effective, transparent, and inclusive governance.
7. At the subnational level, through our ten (10) Field Offices, we continue to engage with the local government and communities from government and opposition-controlled areas to promote confidence and trust-building to create conditions for a more sustained peace process.

8. We will continue to strengthen our engagement with the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and the Sant'Egidio community, which are currently spearheading mediation efforts with **the non-signatory groups**. We will also strengthen our engagement with other **regional and international partners who are signatories to the Agreement** to ensure coherent communication and support to the ongoing political processes in South Sudan. At the same time, we will also remain engaged in the provision of technical assistance and advisory support to the various implementation mechanisms to empower participation and consistent delivery of their mandates.
9. We will be doing all these to enhance the transition of South Sudan to a stable and prosperous country while at the same time continuing to support and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and protect civilians from physical threat.

Mr. Chairman and distinguished delegates,

10. The **re-designation and transition of four of our five POC sites** from UNMISS to the Government of South Sudan has been achieved through a considerable coordinated effort from the Mission, humanitarian partners and local authorities. The shift away from static protection has enabled a more proactive and robust deployment of our uniformed peacekeepers and enabled a patrolling strategy targeting hotspots wherever they arise in the country.

11. We are also looking at the capacities of our uniformed peacekeepers to contribute to a **broader approach to protection**—one that strengthens the capacity of South Sudan's police and justice institutions to protect their own citizens through robust rule of law mechanisms. **Strengthening national and local police capacity** is a crucial part of that work to facilitate a broader protection environment in the communities.

12. The perceived lack of accountability for serious crimes, including sexual crimes, in South Sudan stems from a lack of effective service provision in the justice chain. Therefore, justice sector support is essential for stability and long-term peace in the country. UNMISS will continue to strengthen the capabilities of **national security and justice institutions** by providing technical advice and assistance to promote accountability and build linkages through the entire justice chain. It is only through extending rule of law that we can end impunity and make an impact to reduce **gender-based violence**, one of the most pernicious features of the conflict.

13. We will also prioritize technical support for Security Sector Reform and are looking ahead to elections. The outcome of the ongoing **Needs Assessment** on elections in South Sudan as mandated by the Security Council will guide our thinking on the requirements, modalities, and the eventual scope of our support to the electoral process. In the meantime, we will continue providing advice, technical assistance and capacity building to support national efforts to reconstitute the National Election Commission, engage with women and youth groups, political parties and other political and civil society stakeholders to promote inclusivity and increased participation of women and youth in the electoral process. We will also continue organizing regular consultation forums with diplomatic community to coordinate electoral assistance.

14. The COVID-19 pandemic has initially impacted our ability to implement certain aspects of our mandate. However, the Mission has adapted our approach and have implemented preventative

measures that have allowed us to continue to implement our mandate in a safe and secure manner protecting our personnel and not exposing the local population to harm.

15. As of 30 April 2021, seventy-one per cent (71%) of the total **Programmatic Activities** under the current budget have been utilized with a total amount of \$2,224,783; the implementation of 39 ongoing and one (1) completed **Quick Impact Projects**, are being implemented, amounting to \$1,949,965 (97%), designed to have immediate impact on the lives of the beneficiaries.

16. I thank you for your attention.