



Agenda item 169
Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

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

3 June 2021

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on financing of African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) for the period from **1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022** under agenda item **169** as listed in today's journal.

2. In its resolution **2559 (2020) of 22 December 2020**, the Security Council decided to **terminate the mandate** of UNAMID **as of 31 December 2020**. The Council requested the Secretary-General to commence the drawdown of UNAMID personnel on 1 January 2021 and to complete the withdrawal of all uniformed and civilian UNAMID personnel by 30 June 2021, other than those required for the Operation's liquidation. The Council also decided to authorize, for the duration of the UNAMID drawdown and liquidation, the retention of a guard unit from within the existing UNAMID footprint to protect UNAMID personnel, facilities and assets.

3. The proposed resources for the 2021/22 period are based on the recent decision of the Security Council in resolution 2559 (2020) to terminate the mandate of UNAMID as of 31 December 2020 and cover the UNAMID twelve-month liquidation period.

4. The proposed 2021/22 budget for UNAMID of **\$82.4 million**, represents a decrease of 81.2 per cent without taking into consideration the recent decision of the General Assembly on

UNAMID's resources made in its resolution 75/251 B of 18 May 2021. The budget proposal reflects a decrease in the number of uniformed personnel owing to the withdrawal of all military personnel and the majority of police personnel. The proposal also reflects a drawdown of civilian personnel, other than those required for liquidation, closure of the Operation's team sites, the camp in El Fasher and limited presence in Khartoum and Port Sudan. During the 2021/22 period, the Operation is planning to finalise major liquidation activities including disposal of assets, hazardous and explosive materials, environmental clean-up and hand over of the El Fasher camp to the designated civilian users, transfer of the remaining archival records, repatriation of the remaining civilian and uniformed personnel, completion of transactional activities including claims, the closure of contracts, the reconciliation and closure of financial records, and the settlement of legal and administrative disputes and/or claims.

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

AFRICAN UNION
الإتحاد الأفريقي



UNAMID



UNITED NATIONS
الأمم المتحدة

African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

Statement to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly

Budget (2021/22)
for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

M'Baye Babacar Cisse
ASG UNAMID

3 June 2021

**Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Committee Members,**

1. At the end of its lifespan, which began over 13 years ago, I am pleased to present to you UNAMID's last proposed budget totalling \$82.4 million covering the specific activities of its liquidation period of 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.
2. With only one month left to the end of the drawdown phase, and with appreciation for having approved the third commitment authority for the period ending 30 June 2021, I urge the Committee to fully endorse UNAMID's budget as proposed by 30 June 2021 to ensure that all necessary resources are in place by 1 July 2021.
3. The Operation has been preparing for liquidation since 2018 when the Security Council, in its resolution 2429 (2018), endorsed the recommendations of the UN-AU Special Report (S/2018/530) for a new mission concept and a transition concept in collaboration with the UN country team over a two-year period towards the eventual exit and liquidation of UNAMID.
4. Since then, we have focused on establishing strong governance structures to facilitate the overall coherence among political drivers, security operations, and logistics support activities with a collective aim to effectively drawdown all UNAMID operations in readiness for the Operation's liquidation.

Drawdown

5. On May 25, we environmentally cleaned, closed and handed over our last team site in Darfur. To-date, we have repatriated 92% (5,335 out of 5806) of uniformed personnel and separated 59% (702 out of 1193) of civilian personnel. Except for personnel earmarked for the liquidation team, in June, UNAMID will repatriate and separate a total of 961 personnel (491 civilian and 470 uniformed). This action will bring to a total of 6,999 personnel repatriated and separated from UNAMID at the end of the drawdown period ending 30 June 2021. All of this will have been achieved in an intense operational period resulting in an acceleration of the closure of team sites and repatriation of Troop and Police Contributing Countries and their equipment.

6. Against a starting point of the \$213 million residual value in property (real estate, fixed assets, equipment and inventory) at the beginning of the drawdown period, to-date, we have disposed of \$53 million for a revised property holding of \$169 million. With the engagement of staff from United Nations Logistics Base (UNLB) and United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), the Operation expects to dispose of an additional \$47 million in residual value bringing the property holdings to \$113 million by 30 June 2021.

**Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Committee Members**

Liquidation

7. On 1 July 2021, the liquidation team, which is already deployed in the mission area and headed by a Director (D-2), will operate from El Fasher camp, with limited presence in Khartoum and Port Sudan, and postured to achieving pre-determined targets and milestones at specific waypoints throughout the 12-month period.

8. The strategic objectives of the UNAMID liquidation, are to:
 - a. Complete the closure of all the remaining physical location and transition the premises to capable and recognised civilian end-users in line with the Framework Agreement between UNAMID and the Government for the Handover of UNAMID Team Sites and Assets exclusively for Civilian Use signed on 4 March 2021;

 - b. Safely repatriate the remaining civilian and uniformed personnel as per the staff drawdown plans with full compliance to the field occupational safety risk management standards and policy;

 - c. Retrieve and dispose of the remaining United Nations-owned equipment (UNOE) based on demonstrated requirements, organizational priorities and cost-benefit analysis;

 - d. Repatriate all the remaining contingent-owned equipment (COE) to the Troops/Police Contributing Countries;

- e. Account for all financial and physical resources in compliance with the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules and enable transparent reporting to the Member States.
 - f. Resolve local contractual and third party claims and complete all ongoing investigations and BOI procedures.
9. Given the scale and complexity of UNAMID's liquidation, appropriate resources and a sufficient time frame to achieve the strategic aims are required in order to minimise organisational risk and reputation in meeting the expectations of Member States.
10. Accordingly, the Liquidation Team in the mission area will be comprised of 215 civilian personnel dedicated to liquidation activities and a protection force of 362 uniformed police personnel and one civilian staff as part of the UN guard unit and 84 UN security staff as well as supported by three temporary positions to be deployed in New York from July to December 2021 to facilitate placement of separated staff. The Operation expects to reduce its footprint in line with projected progress of its residual activities during liquidation, equivalent to 40% by 31 December 2021 and 30% by 31 March 2022. As a result, a total of 90 posts and positions are expected to carry the residual activities of the liquidation team in Darfur through 30 June 2022. The United Nations guard unit is expected to remain in the mission area at its full authorized strength at least for an initial period of 9-month ending 31 March 2022, after which, informed by a continuous assessment of the security situation on the ground, consideration may be given for a gradual reduction of its strength towards the end of the physical liquidation

period through further cooperation with Government protection elements.

11. During the liquidation period, the liquidation team will physically close, conduct an environmental clean-up, and hand over the El Fasher camp to civilian end-users; dispose of \$113 million in projected residual property value; repatriate all uniformed personnel and contingent-owned equipment; separate all civilian personnel; and hand over residual administrative and financial activities to the Regional Service Centre Entebbe (RSCE), United Nations Logistic Base (Brindisi) and the Department of Operational Support (DOS) at UNHQ.
12. Promoting efficient and effective stewardship of human, financial and physical resources, in compliance with the UN regulatory framework, the liquidation management team will provide the oversight of liquidation plans, supported by the Administrative Task Force and the Asset Downsizing Task Force. Activities will be monitored against periodic targets and milestones in close coordination with DOS who in turn will keep Member States informed of progress.
13. While planning for the completion of the liquidation and the transfer of the residual post-liquidation activities to RSCE, UNLB, and UNHQ by 30 June 2022, the Operation will continue to refine and build upon its contingency plans to execute a timely and efficient liquidation and an exit based on continuous assessment of the situation in Sudan and Darfur, with due regard to the safety and security of personnel, safeguarding of property (UNOE and COE), and the full compliance with the United Nations regulatory framework.

14. The Operation will continue to apply a risk-based approach in the execution of the liquidation. This approach has guided the Operation's decisions throughout the drawdown period and in making the planning decisions for the liquidation, including the strength and composition of the liquidation team, the strength and composition of the UN guard unit, logistics support capacities, and air assets to be retained in support of the Operation's liquidation. The Operation has developed and will continue to maintain and update a risk register with risk profiles for various workstreams, which will be used to guide the planning and execution of the activities during the liquidation period.

15. We will not overlook the criticality of the continued support and partnership of the Sudanese authorities in the successful liquidation of UNAMID starting 1 July 2021.

**Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Committee Members**

16. Let me conclude by confirming that due diligence has been fully exercised to ensure the proposed financial resources of \$82.4 million directly match the operational requirements UNAMID needs to fulfil its obligation. To ensure its full implementation, I request your timely consideration for the full financial resources package sought.

17. I thank you for your kind attention.