Agenda item 138 Proposed programme budget for 2022

Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for 2022 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 36, Staff assessment

Thematic cluster III: regional offices, offices in support of political processes and other missions

United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia
United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan
(A/76/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.7)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan Controller, Assistant-Secretary-General

9 December 2021 (AM)

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

I have the honour to introduce the revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for 2022, with respect to two special political missions under thematic cluster III: The United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) as contained in A/76/6 (Sect.3)/Add.7.

By its resolution 2574 (2021), the Security Council decided, following the request of the Government of Colombia and to support the comprehensive implementation of the Final Agreement, that the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia shall, in addition to the provisions of its existing mandate as most recently extended by resolution 2603(2021), verify compliance with and implementation of the sentences issued by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace.

By its resolution 2579 (2021), the Security Council requested the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) to prioritize support to ceasefire monitoring in Darfur, in line with the role envisaged for the United Nations in the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA). On 30 June 2021, the transitional Government of Sudan formalized a request by the signatories of the JPA for support to ceasefire mechanisms, as envisaged in the agreement. On 5 July 2021, the transitional Government of Sudan issued decrees establishing several mechanisms related to the implementation of the security arrangements provided for in the JPA. These include the Joint High Military Committee for Security Arrangements, as well as the Permanent Ceasefire Committee and Sectoral Committees in the Darfur region. UNITAMS was formally designated to serve as Chair of the Permanent Ceasefire Committee and its five Sectoral Committees and Field Teams.

Due to the timing of these developments, which occurred after the finalization of the fascicle for thematic cluster III (A/76/6 (Sect.3)/Add.4), the related resources for implementing the additional mandated activities required time to develop and finalize, including, in the case of UNITAMS, with the deployment of an advance team which developed a concept of operations for the longer-term support by the mission for monitoring ceasefire in Darfur.

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Delegates,

The additional resources presented in the current report amount to \$19.7 million, net of staff assessment, consisting of \$7.2 million for the Verification Mission in Colombia and \$12.5 million for UNITAMS. The proposals include the addition of 40 military personnel in UNITAMS and the establishment of 147 civilian positions (consisting of 50 in the Verification Mission in Colombia and 97 in UNITAMS), and related operational costs. These proposals are in addition to the resources previously submitted in the proposed budget for thematic cluster III for 2022 as contained in A/76/6 (Sect.3)/Add.4.

The General Assembly is requested to approve the additional personnel and operational costs, and to appropriate an amount of \$19,670,300 under section 3, Political affairs, and \$1,026,400 under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under Income Section 1, Income from staff assessment.

We thank you for your kind attention and look forward to answering your questions on this report, together with colleagues from the two special political missions, as well as colleagues from the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.