

Agenda Item 155
Administrative and Budgetary Aspects of the
Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
MONUSCO

Outcome evaluation of United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the
Democratic Republic of the Congo support provided to the rule of law and security
institutions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
(A/76/707)

Statement to the Fifth Committee by the Under-Secretary-General
for Internal Oversight Services

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5 May 2022

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members of the Fifth Committee,

I am pleased to introduce report A/76/707 on the OIOS outcome evaluation of MONUSCO support provided to the rule of law and security institutions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The evaluation covered MONUSCO's support over the period from 2014 to 2021. In conducting the evaluation, the OIOS team engaged with mission staff, the United Nations country team, Government officials, civil society organizations, vulnerable sections of the population, and other international and regional partners.

The results of the evaluation indicated that MONUSCO support contributed to multiple outcomes, including the establishment of relative peace, security and stability in Kasai, Kasai Central and

Tanganyika Provinces, strengthening the triple nexus approach and development of the transition plan.

MONUSCO support was aligned with the mandate and was relevant to the contextual challenges and needs of the beneficiaries. MONUSCO contributed to improved infrastructure and extended the presence of the rule of law and security institutions. MONUSCO advocacy and support contributed to the establishment of accountability mechanisms and partial improvement in the attitude and behaviour of the security actors.

However, the pace of reforms, the scale of assistance, and continued instability limited transformational changes. Due to the critical capacity gaps and needs of the rule of law and security institutions, MONUSCO support could only partially strengthen their capacity, capabilities and accountability. Limited budgetary support for the State institutions affected the sustainability of the support provided by MONUSCO.

The views of stakeholders on mandated tasks were not always united, but recent years have seen more convergence. The much-needed reforms in the governance, security sector (military and police), judicial and prison sectors remained limited.

In the criminal justice chain, shortcomings in capacity and capabilities limited the effectiveness of the police, but improved policing was reported where MONUSCO had supported. Although the quality of investigations improved, the delivery of justice remained a challenge. While MONUSCO provided critical assistance to the priority prisons, the scale of challenges of the penitentiary system remained vast.

Serious human rights abuses and violations increased consistently, and intercommunity tensions continued, and the root causes and the drivers of conflict remained unresolved during the period

covered by the evaluation. Nevertheless, MONUSCO achieved noteworthy outcomes in the fight against impunity for crimes under international law and serious human rights violations.

The promulgation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, Community Recovery and Stabilization Programme by the Government offered new opportunities. Nonetheless, the community's perception of security and the trust and confidence in the security actors declined.

The perspectives on gender, environmental protection and inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities were mainstreamed in the plans and programmes, although sustainable efforts would be required to make a credible impact.

The evaluation made six important recommendations, all of which were accepted by the evaluand and being implemented.

I would like to express my appreciation to the management and staff of the entities that were involved in this evaluation for the assistance and cooperation that they extended to the OIOS team during the assignment.

I look forward to the dialogue that this session brings and welcome your questions.

Thank you.