

Check against delivery

Administrative and Financial Report of the Secretary-General for the United Nations

peacekeeping operations

Budgetary Questions to the Fifth Committee

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Advisory Committee (A/66/501), which contains its comments and recommendations on the Secretary-General's

of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Support Mission in Liberia (UNSMIL) issued shortly in a separate report.

The Advisory Committee notes that provision of \$617.6 million is sought for 2012 for the requirements of 30 special political missions. The Committee recalls that the Secretary-General had included an estimate for the biennium 2012-2013 of some \$1.08 billion for special political missions. In its first report on the proposed

the Secretary-General could have provided. The Committee considers that the estimates proposed for 2012 validate that position.

Mr. Chairman,

The Committee's comments and recommendation with regard to the resources

United Nations Assistance Mission for Afghanistan (UNAMA) and United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) are contained in section III of its report

on the Prevention of Genocide.

Turning to Cluster II, the Committee notes the increase in the overall provision for the cluster of some \$844,000, primarily due to the fact that the funding for the Panel of Experts on Liberia for 2012 is higher than the budget for 2011.

three new positions requested in this cluster, but does not recommend the establishment of the proposed position in the Counter-Terrorism Executive Director's Office. The Advisory Committee also recommends approval of the non-post resources proposed for the Panel of Experts on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire and the Support to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

With respect to Cluster III, the Advisory Committee notes that the provision for 2012 reflects a reduction of some \$3.75 million when compared to the approved budget for 2011. This reduction is mainly due to the combined effect of the end of the United Nations Mission in Nepal and reduced requirements for the United Nations Office in Burundi, partly offset by increases in a number of other missions (UNOWA, BINUCA, UNPOS, UNIPSIL and UNOCA).

The Advisory Committee has recommended reductions in the level of UNRCCA and UNOC) which are explained in paragraphs 71 to 167 of its report.

The Committee has not recommended approval of the two additional non-post positions requested for UNOCA. With regard to proposed reclassification of the position of Chief of Staff in UNPOS, to D-1, the Committee has no objection to the reclassification of this position, provided that the Deputy Representative of the Secretary-General to Mogadishu takes place.

Mr. Chairman,

The Advisory Committee is recommending approval of the Secretary-General's proposal for 2012, which should decrease by some \$1.5 million. The Committee is also recommending approval of the Secretary-General's proposal to abolish 26 international positions in order to accommodate the implementation of the decision by the General Assembly on the abolition of positions of conditions of service.

The proposed budget of UNAVIA reflects reductions under operational costs, but contemplates national costs. There are no further requirements in 2012. The reductions would be partially offset by significant increases for salary costs, owing to higher salary entitlements as well as the need to recruit and train staff for both international and national staff. During the current period several unforeseen security projects were implemented to meet new

Turning finally to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) representing a decrease of \$27.3 million, compared with the approved budget for 2011. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Secretary-General's 2011. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Secretary-General's

With regard to staffing, a total of 41 new positions are proposed, while 136 positions are proposed for abolition in a phased manner during 2012. The Committee notes that the vacancy rate at UNAMI remains high with 238 positions being vacant as of 31 October 2011. In light of the persistent high vacancy rates, the Committee is of the view that the Mission should further review its staffing requirements and report the results of the review in the next budget submission.

With regard to operational costs, the Advisory Committee notes that \$23.5 million is proposed for the Mission's operational requirements for 2012, an increase of \$1.5 million compared to 2011, with the requirements stated to be mainly due to the construction of a new integrated compound in Baghdad. However, with respect to the Mission's premises in Kirkuk and Basra, the Advisory Committee notes that the construction

As for the planned construction project for an integrated compound in Baghdad, the Committee notes that the selected architectural firm lacked in-house expertise and failed to complete the design phase. The Mission has therefore chosen an alternative, namely, to consolidate a compound adjacent to the Mission's existing compound into a single integrated compound. However, the Committee notes that the renovation works involved

The Advisory Committee emphasizes the need for close monitoring and

The Committee recommends that detailed information regarding UNAMI's operational resource requirements, be provided directly to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the estimates in respect of special political missions.

Mr. Chairman,

While the present format of presentation was recommended by the Advisory Committee, it notes that the problem of a lack of systematic inclusion of budgetary proposals for special political missions has been in place for five years. The General Assembly is requested to request the Secretary-General to make an assessment as to whether that system requires any adjustment.

The Committee has also expressed the view that future budget proposals for special political missions would benefit from more systematic inclusion of being put forward.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

