

two tribunals as well as the transitional measures to the mechanism and national jurisdictions.

Mr. Chairman,

Turning to the budget proposals for 2014-2015, Our Group has carefully studied the Secretary General's proposal on the budget for the tribunals and the residual mechanism. We have taken note of the variance of the budget proposals from the revised appropriations for the current biennium with ICTR budget reduced by 54% to the tune of US\$ 86.9 million gross before recosting; the ICTY budget with reduction of 34% to the tune of US\$ 191.34 million and IRM budget growth by 102% to the tune of US\$ 110.5 million.

The African Group has also taken note of various elements behind the Secretary-General's proposals, including those related to staff changes and other non-post resources.

The African Group will seek specific clarifications on many of the proposal elements as connected to implementation of mandates including the issues related to retention of key personnel, recruitment as well as mechanism to give the opportunities to outgoing staff to other UN entities.

Mr. Chairman

Turning to the Construction of the

Netherlands, as well as the United Nations, for their continued support to the work of the Tribunals and the International Residual mechanism.

Allow us also to assure you of our readiness to participate in constructive deliberations on this important agenda item. I thank you.