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Statement of the Chairman  
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

\_\_\_\_\_ 9 May 2016

\_\_\_\_\_ financing of United Nations # \$ % s

Budget for the United Nations & Interim Security Force for

The Advisory Committee is of the view - that further efforts can be made to use travel resources more efficiently, and is recommending a 10 per cent reduction in the requirements proposed for travel. The Committee is also recommending against approval of a third armoured vehicle.

With regard to the Mission's construction projects, the Advisory Committee welcomes the start of construction activity - which has been delayed since 1994. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to closely monitor progress and make every effort to ensure that the planned construction activities are completed according to schedule and that the living conditions in the camps are improved - without further delay.

Mr. Chairman,

In regard to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), the Advisory Committee is aware that the most recent extension of the Operation's mandate - as authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 1528, of 4 April 2004. The Committee notes from the letter of the Controller dated 6 May 2004, that, at present, the United Nations Secretariat is reviewing the impact of the Council resolution on the financing of UNOCI and that the Secretary-General will present a report

The Committee also makes observations and recommendations on a number of issues, including staff proposals, long vacant posts, and the relationship between the United Nations Support Base and the Regional Service Centre in United Nations. The Committee proposes reductions in the resources proposed for official travel, the acquisition of new vehicles, and the Mission's unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).

Mr Chairman,

With respect to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the staffing changes in the proposed budget which comprise a net reduction of 1 civilian posts or positions including 1 national posts. The Committee, however, recalls that the General Assembly had noted the need for missions to build national capacity and reiterates its support to the trend towards nationalisation of posts and positions, whenever possible.

The Advisory Committee further notes that the proposed staffing reductions include a number of substantive posts/positions and highlights that the Secretary-General reflects these reductions as efficiency gains. It expects that the Secretary-General will provide further explanations on this matter to the General Assembly.

The Advisory Committee commends UNMIK for its efforts to introduce renewable energy alternatives and for its comprehensive approach to waste management.

Overall, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposed budget for the 2011 period.

Mr Chairman,

Under provisions for military and police personnel, the Advisory Committee has analysed the proposed increases related to the amendment to the ration contract. The Committee also notes the higher amount budgeted for reimbursement for self-sustainment and requested that more information should be provided to the 55th General Assembly.

As regards the Committee's comments and recommendations on staff, of the 144 new posts and positions proposed for 2011, the Committee recommends against the establishment of 2, including one post for an Assistant Secretary-General. While the Committee recognizes the need to strengthen the leadership functions within UNSOS, it is of the view that the strengthening of the leadership of UNSOS requires the continued presence of the current senior leadership in Somalia.

The Committee also questions the proposed resource increases for 2011 under both civilian personnel (2 million or 11 per cent, and for outsourced services (2 million or 2 per cent). The Committee is of the view that the Secretary-General should have provided clarity with respect to these proposed resource increases, in particular concerning the respective functions and locations of staff and consultants.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman!