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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katja **Pehrman** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled “Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia” and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 56th and 66th meetings, on 2 and 30 June 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee’s consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/60/SR.56 and 66).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the United Nations Mission in Liberia for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/60/645);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Mission in Liberia for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 (A/60/653 and Corr.1 and 2);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/852).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.52

4. At its 66th meeting, on 30 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia” (A/C.5/60/L.52),



which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Uganda.

5. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the draft resolution.

6. The Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.52 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia¹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

Recalling Security Council resolution 1497 (2003) of 1 August 2003, by which the Council declared its readiness to establish a United Nations stabilization force to support the transitional government and to assist in the implementation of a comprehensive peace agreement in Liberia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1509 (2003) of 19 September 2003, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Mission in Liberia for a period of twelve months, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1667 (2006) of 31 March 2006, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 30 September 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 58/315 of 1 July 2004,

Recalling its resolution 58/261 A of 23 December 2003 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 59/305 of 22 June 2005,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005 and 60/266 of 30 June 2006, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Liberia as at 30 April 2006, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 212.9 million United States dollars, representing some 8.9 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only six Member States have paid

¹ A/60/645 and A/60/653 and Corr.1 and 2.

² A/60/852.

their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,² subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring coordination and collaboration of efforts with the agencies and programmes and implementation of a unified workplan, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on measures taken, as well as progress made and to provide clear descriptions of respective roles and responsibilities in its future budget submissions;

11. *Looks forward* to the consideration of the comprehensive report requested in section VIII, paragraph 3, of resolution 60/266;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that quick impact projects are implemented in compliance with the original intent of such projects and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

13. *Decides* to provide 1,000,000 dollars for quick impact projects for the period 2006/07, in the interim, and requests the Secretary-General to utilize resources in strict compliance with the original intent of this type of project;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the administrative support structure for the quick impact projects with a view to minimizing overhead costs for their implementation;

15. *Decides* to reduce operational costs by 1,000,000 dollars;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296 and 60/266;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

18. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005

19. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005;³

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

20. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in Liberia the amount of 745,572,300 dollars for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, inclusive of 714,613,300 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 25,571,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 5,388,000 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

21. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 186,393,100 dollars for the period from 1 July to 30 September 2006, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003;

22. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 21 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 3,394,000 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 2,573,000 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 719,100 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 101,900 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

23. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 559,179,200 dollars for the period from 1 October 2006 to 30 June 2007 at a monthly rate of 62,131,022 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B, and for 2007,⁴ subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

24. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 23 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization

³ A/60/645.

⁴ To be adopted by the General Assembly.

Fund of 10,182,100 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 7,718,900 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 2,157,300 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 305,900 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

25. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 21 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 108,308,700 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2005, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2005 as set out in its resolution 58/1 B;

26. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 108,308,700 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2005, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 25 above;

27. *Also decides* that the decrease of 316,800 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2005 shall be set off against the credits from the amount of 108,308,700 dollars referred to in paragraphs 25 and 26 above;

28. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

29. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

30. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

31. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia".
