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Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2012, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled “Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects” and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).
2. The Fourth Committee considered the item at its 14th, 15th, 18th and 19th meetings, on 1, 2 and 8 November 2012, and took action on the item at its 23rd meeting, on 15 November (see A/C.4/67/SR.14, 15, 18, 19 and 23).
3. At the 14th meeting, on 1 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support made statements (see A/C.4/67/SR.14).
4. At the same meeting, the Committee held a closed interactive dialogue on the item with the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, in the course of which the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support heard comments and responded to questions from Member States.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/67/L.19/Rev.1

5. At the 23rd meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution entitled “Comprehensive review of special political missions” (A/C.4/67/L.19/Rev.1). Subsequently, Belize joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.



6. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Mexico revised it as follows:

(a) The fifth preambular paragraph, which read:

“Recalling the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions, which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions”,

was replaced by:

“Recalling the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions, which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters”;

(b) Operative paragraph 2, which read:

“Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on all policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including their evolution, trends and nature, as well as their role in activities of the Organization relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to make recommendations to increase their overall transparency and accountability”,

was replaced by:

“Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including their evolution and trends, as well as their role in activities of the Organization relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to make recommendations to increase their overall transparency and effectiveness”;

(c) Operative paragraph 3, which read:

“Also requests the Secretary-General to hold regular consultations on matters related to special political missions in order to promote closer collaboration with Member States”,

was replaced by:

“Also requests the Secretary-General to hold regular inclusive and interactive exchanges on the overall policy matters related to special political missions in order to promote closer collaboration with Member States”.

7. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/67/L.19/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 9).

III. Recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

9. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive review of special political missions

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its commitment to respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

Reaffirming the respective roles and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the areas of conflict prevention and the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recalling the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions,¹ which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

1. *Acknowledges* the increase in the number and the complexity of special political missions;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including their evolution and trends, as well as their role in activities of the Organization relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to make recommendations to increase their overall transparency and effectiveness;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to hold regular inclusive and interactive exchanges on the overall policy matters related to special political missions in order to promote closer collaboration with Member States;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session a new item entitled "Comprehensive review of special political missions", to allocate the item to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and to consider the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General under that item.

¹ A/66/340 and A/66/7/Add.21.