



General Assembly

Distr.: General
30 April 2019

Original: English

Seventy-third session

Agenda item 157

Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Budget performance of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Commitment authority (1 July–31 December 2017)	\$90,000,000
Expenditure	\$89,999,200
Unencumbered balance	\$800



I. Introduction

1. During its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/73/621), the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 6 March 2019. The documents reviewed and those used for background information by the Committee are listed at the end of the present report. The comments and recommendations of the Committee on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations, including those pertaining to the findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, can be found in its related report (A/73/755).

2. The mandate of MINUSTAH was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1542 (2004) and extended in subsequent resolutions. By its resolution 2350 (2017), the Council decided to extend the mandate for a final period of six months and that MINUSTAH would close by 15 October 2017, and requested MINUSTAH to ensure a successful and responsible transition to the follow-on mission, the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH).

II. Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

3. By its resolution 71/302, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of MINUSTAH in an amount not exceeding \$90,000,000 gross (\$88,398,800 net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2017. Expenditures for the period totalled \$89,999,200 gross (\$86,371,700 net), reflecting a budget implementation rate of 100 per cent. The resulting unencumbered balance of \$800, in gross terms, reflects the combined effect of: (a) lower-than-budgeted expenditures under military and police personnel (\$5,571,300, or 12.5 per cent) and operational costs (\$1,412,200, or 7.3 per cent); and (b) higher-than-budgeted expenditures under civilian personnel (\$6,982,700, or 26.7 per cent). A detailed analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/73/621).

4. In the budget performance report, it is indicated that during the 2017/18 period, an amount of \$5,571,000 was redeployed from group I, military and police personnel, and an amount of \$1,411,000 from group III, operational costs, to group II, civilian personnel (for a total of \$6,982,000). The increased requirements under civilian personnel are mainly attributable to: (a) under international staff, the higher actual incumbency and higher separation costs; and (b) under national staff, the higher actual incumbency, the revised salary scale for national staff and the appreciation of the Haitian gourde (*ibid.*, paras. 32, 38 and 39).

5. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 26 February 2019, \$36,682,423 had been assessed on Member States in 2019 in respect of MINUSTAH and MINUJUSTH, and payments received amounted to \$13,338,696, leaving an outstanding balance of \$49,093,766 (taking into account outstanding contributions as at 1 January 2019 of \$25,750,039). **The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly has repeatedly urged all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations, on time, in full and without conditions.**

6. From information provided to it, the Advisory Committee notes that under communications, an overexpenditure was recorded for subscriptions in the amount of \$1,700, or 22.7 per cent. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the increased requirements were mainly due to the higher than anticipated cost of subscription to Platts Latin American Wire service, an independent provider of analysis and intelligence on oil prices. **The Advisory Committee is not convinced that this expenditure for subscriptions was justified during the closing phase of the Mission and trusts that more information will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.**

7. Under other supplies, services and equipment, the Advisory Committee notes from information provided to it that there were increased requirements under bank charges in the amount of \$61,700, or 246.8 per cent. The Committee was informed upon enquiry that this was mainly attributable to higher charges centrally apportioned across all peacekeeping missions. **The Advisory Committee considers the explanation for the increased bank charges to be unclear and expects that a detailed explanation will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.**

8. The Advisory Committee further notes that under other services, overexpenditure in the amount of \$478,500, or 31.5 per cent, is reflected. The Committee was informed upon enquiry that the increased requirements were mainly attributable to the engagement of a higher number of individual contractors to act as surge capacity during the liquidation of the Mission, as detailed in the table below.

Analysis of expenditure for individual contractors for the 2017/18 period

(United States dollars)

<i>Fund centre</i>	<i>Number of individual contractors</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
Chief of Mission Support	3	7 510	
Human Resources	14	101 951	To undertake activities of records management and archiving
Supply Chain Management	106	328 807	To undertake the activities of inventory management, including listing, grouping, reconditioning, moving and the disposal of the massive number of MINUSTAH legacy assets
Engineering	513	1 348 840	To undertake the activities of dismantling the Mission's assets on the properties as well as cleaning prior to returning the properties to their owners
Ground transportation	46	142 281	To undertake preparation activities for the sale of vehicles and to carry out repairs and maintenance of MINUSTAH vehicles and equipment in use for camp closures
Movement Control	1	417	
Finance	1	1 960	
Total	684	1 931 766	

9. The Advisory Committee notes from the table above that under ground transportation, an amount of \$142,281 was spent on preparation activities for the sale of vehicles and to carry out vehicle repair and maintenance. **The Advisory Committee considers the expenditure to be excessive and is not convinced that it was justified. The Committee considers that more information should be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report. The Committee recommends that the Assembly request the Secretary-**

General to include, in relevant performance reports of future closing missions, a cost-benefit analysis in respect of such expenditures.

10. Upon enquiry as to the assets and liabilities transferred from MINUSTAH to MINUJUSTH, the Advisory Committee was provided with the tables below. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include such information on assets and liabilities in future performance reports of closing missions.**

Assets transferred from the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti to the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti

(United States dollars)

<i>Asset class</i>	<i>Acquisition costs</i>	<i>Accumulated depreciation</i>	<i>Book value</i>
	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)=(1)-(2)</i>
Building	15 702 481.27	4 095 208.64	11 607 272.63
Prefabricated buildings	14 091 306.48	12 942 444.72	1 148 861.76
Infrastructure assets	14 957 475.48	5 957 522.25	8 999 953.23
Light passenger vehicles	9 352 604.44	9 129 017.00	223 587.44
Heavy-wheeled and engineering support vehicles	11 320 409.51	9 571 176.21	1 749 233.30
Specialized, trail and attachment vehicles	9 840 731.56	7 322 050.53	2 518 681.03
Information technology: computers, network and storage equipment	5 469 268.62	5 439 135.46	30 133.16
Communication and network equipment	8 035 127.44	7 569 225.02	465 902.42
Audiovisual equipment	436 798.55	353 213.72	83 584.83
Medical equipment	191 496.42	191 496.42	–
Security and safety equipment	657 568.80	657 568.80	–
Light engineering and construction equipment	52 150.69	52 150.69	–
Heavy engineering and construction equipment	3 705 149.91	2 324 957.22	1 380 192.69
Water treatment and fuel distribution equipment	7 397 976.42	6 732 635.00	665 341.42
Ground transportation equipment	871 994.35	719 660.37	152 333.98
Total	102 082 539.94	73 057 462.05	29 025 077.89

Summary of liabilities as at 30 June 2018 (United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti/United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>
I. Credits due to Member States	
(a) Unencumbered balance	
(i) MINUSTAH	0.8
(ii) MINUJUSTH	300.0
Subtotal, (a) unencumbered balance	300.8
(b) Other revenue	
Investment revenue (MINUJUSTH)	50.3
Investment revenue (MINUSTAH)	387.2
Other/miscellaneous revenue (MINUSTAH)	5 146.5
Cancellation of prior-period obligations (MINUSTAH)	3 270.4
Subtotal, (b) other revenue	8 854.4
Total, credits due to Member States from the 2017/18 period (a) + (b)	9 155.2
II. Other liabilities	
Contributions received in advance	0.7
Unliquidated obligations, including prior-period obligations (MINUSTAH) ^a	2 375.3
Unliquidated obligations, including prior-period obligations (MINUJUSTH) ^a	15 454.0
Other accounts payable and liabilities	36 651.0
Total, other liabilities	54 481.0
III. Total liabilities (I plus II)	63 636.2

^a Includes commitments in the amount of \$323,267 for MINUSTAH and \$915,942 for MINUJUSTH that are not recognized as liabilities on the financial statements, as they do not meet the criteria for accrual under IPSAS. Hence the difference of \$1,239,209 between the total liabilities according to the financial statement and the total liabilities shown above.

11. Regarding the action taken to assist the national staff of MINUSTAH, the Advisory Committee was informed upon enquiry that from April to August 2017, training was identified for the professional development and capacity-building of national staff, focusing on managerial skills, language, communications and information technology, entrepreneurship and project management. The Committee was also informed that the Mission organized a job fair in June 2017 with 34 potential employers.

12. In respect of compliance with the advance purchase policy directive, the Advisory Committee was informed upon enquiry that for the 2017/18 period, the Mission's rate of compliance was 4.7 per cent. **The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly, on a number of occasions, has expressed concern at the low rate of compliance with the advance purchase policy directive (see also resolution 72/262 B, para. 4).**

III. Conclusion

13. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly regarding the financing of MINUSTAH for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 are indicated in section V of the performance report (A/73/621). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of \$800 for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, as well as other revenue and adjustments amounting to \$8,804,100 for the period ended 30 June 2018, be credited to Member States.**

Documentation

- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/73/621)
- Report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/73/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations and report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2017 (A/72/850)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2018 (A/73/750)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 and budget for the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (A/73/776)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget performance of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (A/72/853)
- General Assembly resolution 71/302
- Security Council resolution 2350 (2017)