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Fifth Committee

Summary record of the 59th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 8 May 2000, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Ms. Wensley (Australia)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative

and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Mselle

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Election of a Vice-Chairman

- 1. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the departure of Mr. Sial from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan, it was necessary for the Committee to appoint a new Vice-Chairman from the Group of Asian States. The Group had nominated Mr. Chaudhry (Pakistan) to fill the vacant post. In the absence of any other nomination, she took it that the Committee wished to elect Mr. Chaudhry.
- 2. Mr. Chaudhry (Pakistan) was elected Vice-Chairman of the Fifth Committee by acclamation.

Organization of work (A/C.5/54/L.56/Rev.1 and A/C.5/54/L.57)

- 3. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to document A/C.5/54/L.56/Rev.1, which contained a list of documents before the Committee for consideration at the current part of the resumed session as well as the status of the reports that had been requested under the various items. She also drew attention to the note by the Bureau (A/C.5/54/L.57) concerning the organization of work for the current part of the resumed session. Attention was drawn in particular to paragraph 3 of the note, in which the Bureau recommended to the Fifth Committee that consideration of a number of reports be postponed to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly. She took it that the Committee agreed with the Bureau's recommendation.
- 4. It was so decided.
- 5. **The Chairman** said that she also took it that the Committee approved the programme of work for the first week of the current part of the resumed session and took note of the proposed programme of work for the following three weeks, which was purely indicative and subject to change.
- 6. It was so decided.

Agenda item 128: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces in the Middle East

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (A/54/707 and Corr.1, A/54/732 and A/54/841 and Add.1)

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (A/54/708, A/54/724 and A/54/841 and Add.2)

Agenda item 129: Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (continued) (A/54/548, A/54/809, A/54/812 and A/54/831)

Agenda item 131: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (A/54/780, A/54/785 and A/54/841 and Add.7)

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Agenda item 141: Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (A/54/705 and A/54/822)

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Agenda item 147: Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (A/54/274-E/1999/116, A/54/757 and A/54/825)

- 7. **Mr. Halbwachs** (Controller), introducing the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of peacekeeping operations, said that most of the current part of the resumed session would be devoted to the financing of peacekeeping operations and to the administrative and budgetary issues related to their financing.
- As at 31 May 1999, the General Assembly had authorized for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 an amount of \$644.1 million for 12 active missions and liquidation requirements for one completed mission as well as for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi and the support account. As a result of developments which could not have been anticipated at the time, in particular the establishment of major new missions and the reconfiguration and expansion of others, the General Assembly had taken additional financing actions at its regular and the first part of its resumed fifty-fourth session which had increased the authorized level of peacekeeping resources to \$1.8 billion. By the end of the second part of the resumed fifty-fourth session, it was expected that the General Assembly would have approved a total of just under \$1.9 billion in peacekeeping resources, which simply underscored the unpredictability of peacekeeping operations.
- 9. Total appropriations for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999 for all peacekeeping operations had amounted to \$863.7 million gross and actual expenditures had amounted to \$795.9 million. After taking into account a technical adjustment arising from a request to retain an amount of \$904,000 gross against the unencumbered balance reported for the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP), representing the reimbursement due to one troopcontributing country for outstanding claims, the total net unencumbered balance was \$47.1 million gross, an amount that was available as credits to Member States if the Assembly so decided.
- 10. With regard to the budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, the initial resource requirements proposed by the Secretary-General for 10 of the 11 missions active over that period and the residual liquidation requirements for two recently completed missions together with the prorated cost of the support account and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi amounted to \$2 billion gross. As a result of continuing initiatives and refinements in peacekeeping budgeting, for the second consecutive

- year the budgetary requirements for five of the missions were less than the levels that had been approved for the previous year. The realism of the peacekeeping budget estimates submitted during the previous two years and the improved ability of peacekeeping administrations to better manage and utilize approved resources were evidenced by the modest levels of unencumbered balances that had been reported in the performance reports for each of the peacekeeping missions.
- 11. Turning to individual mission reports for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, the performance report of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (A/54/707 and Corr.1) showed that expenditures had totalled \$33,662,500 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$1,737,600 gross. The increase in the proposed budget for the period from July 2000 to June 2001 was attributable to the two additional posts and additional operational resources that were being sought. In keeping with Assembly resolution 53/226, the Secretary-General proposed to credit back to Member States during the current session of the Assembly an amount of \$4,022,162, representing part of the remaining balance held in the suspense account for the Force. Subject to the cash position of the Force at the time and barring unforeseen circumstances, it was expected that the third and final payment of the residual balance of \$4 million would be credited back to Member States at the Assembly's fifty-fifth session.
- 12. The performance report of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) (A/54/708) showed that expenditures had totalled \$134,655,200 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$8,329,300 gross. The proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 for the maintenance of UNIFIL (A/54/724) amounted to \$139,547,600 gross.
- 13. The performance report of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) (A/54/809) showed that expenditures had totalled \$132,949,580 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$149,500 gross. The proposed increase contained in the revised liquidation budget for MONUA for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 (A/54/812) was primarily attributable to the retention in the mission area of military and civilian personnel as a result of the extension of liquidation activities beyond the original deadline.

- 14. In his report on the financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) (A/54/780), the Secretary-General had recommended that the Assembly should reduce the appropriation for MINURSO to \$46,031,077 gross, corresponding to the amount that had actually been assessed on Member States. The proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 for the maintenance of MINURSO was \$46,611,600 gross.
- 15. With regard to the status of the accounts of the United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF) headquarters, the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) and the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), all of which had been closed, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters was contained in document A/54/803. Owing to the unanticipated surge in peacekeeping activities and the need to backstop new and expanded missions, there had been some slippage in the preparation of the other reports. Consequently, it was envisaged that the reports on UNOSOM, UNAMIR and UNMIH would be finalized and submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.
- 16. In his report on UNPF, the Secretary-General recommended that the Assembly should retain an amount of \$1,193,000 gross to meet the cost of completing the liquidation of the mission and an amount of \$179,899,700 gross and net from the balance of appropriations to meet the cost of outstanding government claims. He further recommended that the Assembly should temporarily suspend the provisions of financial regulations 4.3, 4.4 and 5.2 (d) in respect of the remaining surplus of \$124,279,327 gross in the light of the Organization's chronic cash shortage. Tables 10 and 11 of the report clearly demonstrated that the balance of appropriations of \$304,179,027 gross was only a paper balance and did not reflect the actual cash balance of \$55 million that had been available as at 31 December 1999. That balance had since been further reduced to \$35 million as a result of recent payments made to troop-contributing countries in settlement of a number of certified claims that had been held in accounts payable. Should the Assembly approve the actions recommended by the Secretary-General and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations certify pending claims, the Secretary-General intended to utilize the remaining \$35 million in actual cash as well as any other outstanding assessed

- contributions received in future to make further progress payments in settlement of such outstanding claims.
- 17. The report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) (A/54/704) showed that expenditures for the period had totalled \$44,902,200 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$374,000 gross. The proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 for the maintenance of the Force in Cyprus (A/54/729) amounted to \$41,039,800 gross.
- 18. The performance report of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) (A/54/721) showed that expenditures for the period had totalled \$20,516,000 gross, resulting in an overrun of \$1,076,720 gross. The overrun had resulted mainly from increased costs for operational requirements. Accordingly, the Secretary-General had requested that an additional amount of \$1,076,720 gross be assessed for the period in question. The proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 for the maintenance of the Mission (A/54/735) amounted to \$28,399,800 gross.
- 19. The performance report of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) (A/54/705) showed that expenditures for the period had \$11,360,600 gross, resulting unencumbered balance of \$3,639,400 gross, which was due mainly to the low level of deployment of military and civilian personnel. The resources which the Assembly had provided for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 were sufficient to cover the cost of the Mission to its completion on 15 May 2000. In the event that additional resources were required for liquidation activities. the Secretary-General would commitment authority from the Advisory Committee in the first instance and report thereon to the General Assembly at a later date. Consequently, there would be no budget proposal for UNMOT for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001.
- 20. The performance report of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) was contained in document A/54/697. Expenditures for the period had totalled \$169,841,000 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$19,642,720 gross, attributable primarily to reduced civilian personnel costs. The proposed budget for the period from 1 July

- 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/54/712) amounted to \$153,588,000 gross. Of the total budget, some 77 per cent of resources related to civilian personnel costs.
- 21. The financial performance report of the Civilian Police Support Group (A/54/713) showed that an amount of \$7,483,160 gross had been appropriated. Expenditures for the period had totalled \$6,606,000, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$877,160 gross. The mandate of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) had terminated on 15 January 1998, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1120 (1997).
- 22. The financial performance report of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) was contained in document A/54/740. Expenditures for the period had totalled \$41,901,000 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$1,161,700 gross. The Secretary-General had recommended that the General Assembly should retain the amount of \$904,000 from that balance to cover the costs of outstanding claims from a Government for the rotation of its troops during the period from May 1996 to June 1998.
- 23. The financial performance report of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (MIPONUH) was contained in document A/54/757. Of the amount of \$29,968,700 appropriated by the Assembly, expenditures for the period had totalled \$26,261,000 gross, resulting in an unencumbered balance of \$3,707,700 gross. The unencumbered balance had resulted mainly from vacancies for civilian police and civilian staff. The amount of \$18.6 million gross which the Assembly had provided for the current period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 together with the commitment authority of \$2.2 million which had been granted by the Advisory Committee were expected to be sufficient to cover the expenses of the Mission to its completion on 15 March 2000 and its liquidation thereafter. Consequently, there was no budget proposal for MIPONUH for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001.
- 24. **Mr. Nair** (Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services), introducing the notes by the Secretary-General on the investigation into allegations of fraud in travel at the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) (A/54/683) and on the investigation into the \$6.9 million procurement of quartering area goods in the United Nations Angola

- Verification Mission III (UNAVEM III) (A/54/548), said that since his recent appointment he had been heartened to learn that the function of oversight had now been accepted as part and parcel of the Organization's management culture and that the Office of Internal Oversight Services was now seen as a key component of the Secretariat. He looked forward to working in close partnership with the management of the Organization under the guidance of the intergovernmental bodies to which it reported.
- 25. With regard to the investigation into the \$6.9 million procurement of quartering area goods in UNAVEM III, he recalled that the Office had been requested in February 1997 by the then Chief Administrative Officer of UNAVEM III to assist in a case that had been pending before the Board of Inquiry of the Mission. A \$6.9 million contract for quartering area goods had been awarded to a local trading company, based on a four-week delivery schedule. The award had been part of a tender exercise conducted in May 1995, in which six other vendors had also been awarded contracts.
- 26. The investigation had determined that planning for the exercise had been inadequate and that the Mission's procurement processes were flawed. In addition, the local trading company had repeatedly failed to meet crucial deadlines, had objected to provisions that would have held it accountable, and had provided goods, most notably tents, which had failed to meet specifications and had required additional material and work at the Mission to make them usable. For a large field procurement that had substantial implications for the achievement of the Mission's objectives, deficiencies in the procurement process could not be excused by reason of emergency time pressures. Nor could the problem be viewed simply as a peacekeeping matter, when the obligations of the Organization were also involved.
- 27. Extensive discussions had been held between the Office and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations prior to the submission of the current report to the General Assembly. The Office had presented recommendations for corrective action, which had been agreed to by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.
- 28. With regard to the report on the investigation into allegations of fraud in travel at UNMIBH, the Office had received a confidential report from United Nations

staff members of fraudulent charges for excess baggage for military observers travelling from the Mission to their home countries. The evidence adduced by the Office between November 1998 and March 1999 had shown that from July 1996 to September 1998 the then Chief of the Travel and Traffic Unit in UNMIBH, who had been located in Zagreb, had initiated a conspiracy with a local travel agent and an employee of a major airline to submit to UNMIBH fraudulent invoices with false supporting documentation. The false invoices had shown false baggage charges and inflated airfares, which the former Chief had approved in his official capacity. The criminal actions by the former Chief and his accomplices had caused the Organization to suffer an estimated loss of at least \$800,000.

- 29. The Organization had referred the case to the relevant United States authorities for the prosecution of the former Chief, who, in mid-November, had taken unauthorized leave from the Mission area and returned to his home in New York. The relevant Croatian authorities had also been advised of the evidence that had been adduced for the prosecution of his accomplices in Zagreb. Investigators from the Office of Internal Oversight Services had worked closely with United States and Croatian authorities.
- 30. In early January 1999 the former Chief had been indicted by a United States federal grand jury and charged with conspiracy and wire fraud stemming from his initiation and preparation of the fraudulent scheme. On 28 September 1999 the former Chief had been found guilty on all counts. The Office had also been cooperating with the Croatian authorities to secure both the prosecution of his accomplices and the restitution of the moneys that had been fraudulently obtained from the Organization.
- 31. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of Legal Affairs had reviewed the current report. The comments of the Office of Legal Affairs had been incorporated into the report and that Office had agreed to advise on the specific recommendations applicable to its role as a legal adviser. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations had concurred with the findings and had agreed with all of the recommendations.
- 32. **Mr. Mselle** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the reports of the Advisory Committee on the 15 peacekeeping missions before the

Committee, said that the Advisory Committee had continued its practice of issuing a report on general themes concerning all such missions (A/54/841).

- 33. The Advisory Committee had examined the missions listed in the introduction to its general report, part II of which set out its findings, comments and recommendations on a number of themes. The estimates for 2000/2001 showed a significant increase compared with the resources requested for the previous two financial periods. The amounts proposed by the Secretary-General and reviewed by the Advisory Committee totalled \$2,016 million. The Controller had informed the Advisory Committee that the total estimate for 2000/2001 might exceed \$2.6 billion. The scope of activities and the nature of the personnel required for recent peacekeeping operations had also changed dramatically, as reflected in the reports of the Secretary-General and of the Advisory Committee to be introduced at a later date.
- 34. The work of the Advisory Committee had been considerably facilitated by improvements in the preparation of the estimates and performance reports, part to the implementation owing in recommendations made by ACABQ. Performance reports had been prepared more accurately and budget estimates were more realistic; considerable effort had been made to take account of lessons learned in the implementation of previous budgets. The Advisory Committee had, however, identified improvements which needed to be made. For example, the Secretariat needed to refine its methods for the timely collection and analysis of the latest expenditure data for ongoing missions for which the Secretary-General had submitted estimates for the next financial period, as required by resolution 49/233. To that end, greater use should be made of the considerable investment in new technology provided for in peacekeeping budgets.
- 35. Annex I to document A/54/841 contained a summary of financial performance for the period ending 30 June 1999. The Advisory Committee had recommended a reduction of \$21.7 million in peacekeeping budgets. In addition to the absorption of costs for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, a total of \$67.8 million had been reported as an unencumbered balance, the bulk of which was available for credit to Member States. The underexpenditure had resulted from a large number of factors, some of which were unique to peacekeeping

operations. In a number of missions political instability and other developments had prevented full implementation of mission mandates, and, in such cases, large unencumbered balances had been reported. In other cases the inability of the United Nations to provide international staff, civilian police personnel or contingents in accordance with planned schedules had also prevented budgets from being committed in the full amounts authorized by the General Assembly.

- 36. The Advisory Committee had commented on those and other issues in its general report and in the individual reports, stressing particularly the need to improve considerably the capacity of the Secretariat to obtain and manage civilian police services and to review the related organizational structure in the Secretariat. Procurement, inventory and assets management, the installation of the field asset control system, and training and coordination in the field had been highlighted for priority attention.
- 37. He drew attention to the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the security coordination question of and related management and cost implications para. 41). Concern had been expressed in recent years about the apparently piecemeal approach to the vital issue of security for civilian personnel of the United Nations family in the field. The Advisory Committee had urged the organizations of the United Nations system to carefully coordinate their security and safety activities and adopt a comprehensive system-wide approach, to avoid the potential for a conflict in policy, activities and guidelines that might endanger the security and safety of United Nations personnel and family members. The Committee had recommended that the report it had requested on that subject should be expedited and submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.
- 38. The individual reports contained proposals for missions such as UNDOF/UNIFIL which were on a regular 12-month financial period and provided performance information for the period ending 30 June 1999 and estimates for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001. Other reports, such as those for UNPF and the Haiti missions, concerned operations which were under liquidation.
- 39. The Advisory Committee had concluded that, on the whole, the estimates proposed by the Secretary-General for the financial period ending 30 June 2001

- were realistic and, with very few exceptions, it had agreed to recommend acceptance of the Secretary-General's requests. It had however requested that particular attention should be given to the other observations it had made on each mission. General Assembly resolution 49/233 had approved the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that peacekeeping budgets should be approved for 12 months. It had also approved the principle that, where missions were evolving, the General Assembly would consider the budgets of those missions twice a year. In that regard the Advisory Committee had proposed that that procedure should be applied to UNTAET and UNMIK.
- 40. The Advisory Committee had considered the estimates of \$461.4 million proposed by the Secretary-General for UNMIK for the period ending 30 June 2001. However, his representatives had informed the Advisory Committee that the situation in the Mission area was still in a state of rapid and significant change, which had an impact on the structure and requirements of UNMIK. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended that \$220 million should be appropriated and assessed for six months up to 31 December 2000. The basis of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee was explained in its report on UNMIK (A/54/842, paras. 8-11). For the period ending 30 June 2000, an amount of \$427,061,800 had already been authorized by the General Assembly. The Advisory Committee would consider estimates for the Mission for the period ending 30 June 2001 in the early autumn of 2000.
- 41. For East Timor, the Advisory Committee had recommended, and the General Assembly had authorized, \$350 million for the period ending 30 June 2000. With respect to the period beginning 1 July 2000, the Secretariat had been requested to report to ACABQ in May 2000. The Advisory Committee would review the progress report to be submitted by the Secretary-General and would report to the Fifth Committee at its current session on requirements for UNTAET for the period beginning July 2000.
- 42. In addition to reports on performance, there were several reports dealing with missions under liquidation or about to be liquidated. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee were in the specific reports on each mission. The Advisory Committee had commented on liquidation activities in its past reports. On the whole, it had expressed concern about the

apparently lengthy periods required to liquidate missions, both in the field and at Headquarters. The Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services had also submitted reports on the subject.

- 43. Lastly, he drew attention to the comments of the Advisory Committee in its report on the financing of UNPREDEP (A/54/824, para. 9), in which it had emphasized that the period of liquidation was not necessarily a function of the size of a mission, but was also related to adequate planning, resource allocation and efficiency. As more missions were liquidated the Department of Peacekeeping Operations would take on more residual liquidation activities, and it should therefore review its capacity in that area to avoid undue delays in the final phase of liquidation.
- 44. Mr. Repasch (United States of America), referring to the investigation into the procurement of quartering area goods in the United Nations Angola Verification Mission, said that the report (A/54/548) showed that not all procedures had been followed correctly and that there had not been full competition for many of the elements of procurement. He noted that the Secretary-General had concurred with the recommendations in the report, and requested a status report on their implementation, particularly on the tightening of procedures to prevent similar incidents from happening in future. A number of officers had been involved, and he wondered what action had been taken against them, whether they had been held accountable, whether they had been provided with training to improve their future performance, or whether they were still working with the United Nations at all.
- 45. As for the fraud which had taken place in Zagreb, his delegation welcomed the information on the prosecution of the individual concerned, but would appreciate an update regarding the status of the case and the sentence the individual had received. From the viewpoint of accountability, he wondered whether the officials who had been supervising that individual had been held accountable for their failure to prevent the fraud; to what extent the recommendations contained in the report (A/54/683) had been implemented; whether internal controls had been tightened to prevent any recurrence of such incidents; and whether any staff members had received training as a result.
- 46. His delegation wished to express its gratitude to those individuals who had come forward with the

- information that had enabled the Office of Internal Oversight Services to proceed with the case and bring about the prosecution of the offender; those individuals had taken a considerable personal risk in coming forward with such information against their superiors.
- 47. Mr. Nair (Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services), replying to the questions of the United States delegation relating to the United Nations said Angola Verification Mission. recommendations were still in the process implementation owing to their extensive nature. The evidence found had not supported any recommendation for disciplinary action against the officers involved, but it could be said that there had been mismanagement, and the officers in question had mostly been moved out of the procurement area. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations had a Lessons Learned Unit, and the lessons derived from the problems encountered in Angola were being taken into account and applied in other cases.
- 48. As for the prosecution of the individual who had perpetrated the fraud in Zagreb, he had been found guilty but sentence had not yet been passed because there were some issues still requiring clarification. As for the accountability of that person's supervisors, the central issue was one of integrity. Staff at all levels of the Organization must carry out their work with integrity; if that were not the case, the addition of layers of control would only lead to bureaucratic gridlock. However, it was the responsibility of the audit unit within the Office of Internal Oversight Services to ensure that appropriate checks and balances were present at all levels of the Organization.
- 49. An update regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations in relation to UNMIBH would be provided in due course by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.
- 50. **Mr. Chandra** (India) expressed his delegation's satisfaction with the improved quality of the reports before the Committee, specifically the incorporation of graphs and charts as requested by delegations. The reports of the Advisory Committee were of crucial importance for the members of the Group of 77. It would be very useful for those delegations if the report for each peacekeeping operation could incorporate tables containing rationalized data on the initial appropriation, total expenditure and unspent balances, as well as details of reimbursements, troop costs,

contingent-owned equipment and death and disability claims. It would also be useful to include footnotes detailing the enabling resolutions, reasons for excess expenditure or underspending, and other pertinent inputs.

Agenda item 17: Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (continued)

- (b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions (continued) (A/54/102/Add.1; A/C.5/54/6/Add.1)
- 51. **The Chairman** drew attention to documents A/54/102/Add.1 and A/C.5/54/6/Add.1, in which the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the resignation of Mr. Etuket (Uganda) from the Committee on Contributions, and of the nomination of Mr. Irumba (Uganda) to fill the remainder of Mr. Etuket's term of office. Since there were no other candidates, she took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Irumba to the Committee on Contributions for a term beginning on the date of appointment and expiring on 31 December 2000.
- 52. Mr. Irumba (Uganda) was recommended for appointment to the Committee on Contributions.

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.