



# General Assembly

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## **Fifty-eighth session**

Agenda items 121, 131, 134, 137, 138, 140, 141,  
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## **Strengthening the security and safety of United Nations operations, staff and premises**

### **Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

#### **I. Introduction**

1. The report of the Secretary-General (A/58/756) contains supplementary budget proposals for the biennium 2004-2005 submitted in accordance with regulations 2.8 and 2.9 of the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules. The total estimated requirements of \$92,433,500 comprise the following:

- \$71,881,600 under the United Nations regular budget, including special political missions;
- \$6,467,700 to be funded by other organizations at Vienna through cost-sharing;<sup>1</sup>
- \$609,900 under the budget for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda;
- \$13,474,300 under United Nations peacekeeping operations.

#### **II. Background information and general considerations**

2. The Advisory Committee recalls that, following the events of 11 September 2001 in the United States, the Secretary-General took a number of steps to strengthen the security and safety of the United Nations. The short-term measures and related requirements of \$3,573,600 were reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2001-2002 (A/56/674 and Corr.1). Subsequently, the Secretary-General reported that those short-term measures had been largely implemented (see A/56/848).

3. The long-term measures for the strengthening of security and safety were set out by the Secretary-General in his report (A/56/848). According to the Secretary-General, the measures were based on a comprehensive review of arrangements at Headquarters and other main locations, supplemented by the findings of security assessment missions to the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the regional commissions. The total estimated cost of the proposed measures amounted to \$57,785,300, including the cost of 130 new regular budget posts. Of those, 60 Security Officer posts were proposed for the regional commissions to allow for discontinuing the outsourcing of security functions in line with the policy established by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/232. The General Assembly, by its resolution 56/286, approved the proposed measures and appropriated the requested funding of \$57,785,300. The Secretary-General reported on the status of appropriations and expenditures relating to strengthening the security and safety of the United Nations premises in the context of his first and

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<sup>1</sup> Estimated requirements for the United Nations Office at Vienna amount to \$8.4 million, of which \$1.9 million is the United Nations regular budget share and \$6.5 million to be cost-shared by other Vienna-based organizations.

second performance reports on the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (A/57/616 and A/58/558/Add.1 and Corr.1). The table contains information on the basis of the performance data reported by the Secretary-General (in United States dollars).

| <i>Budget section (2002-2003)</i>                                           | <i>2002-2003 appropriation</i> | <i>Expenditure at 31 October 2002</i> | <i>2002-2003 revised appropriation</i> | <i>Actual expenditure to 31 October 2003 and projected expenditure to 31 December 2003</i> | <i>Uncommitted balance as at 31 December 2003</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 16. Economic and Social Development in Africa                               | 85 600                         | 40 700                                | 86 300                                 | 54 700                                                                                     | 31 600                                            |
| 17. Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific                 | 591 700                        | 48 700                                | 715 500                                | 657 800                                                                                    | 57 700                                            |
| 19. Economic and Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean      | 232 000                        | 17 900                                | 219 400                                | 161 000                                                                                    | 58 400                                            |
| 20. Economic and Social Development in Western Asia                         | 1 045 000                      | 50 400                                | 1 035 400                              | 950 800                                                                                    | 84 600                                            |
| 27C. Office of Human Resources Management                                   | 458 600                        | 144 400                               | 458 300                                | 518 500                                                                                    | (60 200)                                          |
| 27D. Office of Central Support Services                                     | 9 144 200                      | 1 115 700                             | 9 178 400                              | 7 342 100                                                                                  | 1 836 300                                         |
| 27E. Administration, Geneva                                                 | 2 052 500                      | 347 800                               | 2 315 500                              | 1 252 900                                                                                  | 1 062 600                                         |
| 27F. Administration, Vienna                                                 | 370 600                        | 328 000                               | 392 700                                | 392 700                                                                                    | -                                                 |
| 27G. Administration, Nairobi                                                | 327 200                        | 188 800                               | 319 900                                | 320 700                                                                                    | (800)                                             |
| 30. Special expenses                                                        | 1 647 000                      | 500 700                               | 1 647 000                              | 1 647 000                                                                                  | -                                                 |
| 31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, including: | 41 830 900                     | 6 587 300                             | 42 592 800                             | 14 073 000                                                                                 | 28 519 800                                        |
| Headquarters                                                                | 26 128 000                     | 2 441 200                             | 26 000 600                             | 7 740 800                                                                                  | 18 259 800                                        |
| Geneva                                                                      | 14 595 200                     | 4 100 000                             | 15 490 000                             | 5 503 200                                                                                  | 9 986 800                                         |
| Nairobi                                                                     | 535 000                        | 150 800                               | 521 000                                | 520 900                                                                                    | 100                                               |
| Addis Ababa                                                                 | 325 000                        | 1 100                                 | 333 500                                | 119 400                                                                                    | 214 100                                           |
| Santiago                                                                    | 148 000                        | 65 200                                | 146 100                                | 88 300                                                                                     | 57 800                                            |
| Bangkok                                                                     | 99 700                         | -                                     | 101 600                                | 100 400                                                                                    | 1 200                                             |
| <b>Grand total</b>                                                          | <b>57 785 300</b>              | <b>9 542 600</b>                      | <b>58 961 200</b>                      | <b>27 371 200</b>                                                                          | <b>31 590 000</b>                                 |

4. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the report of the Secretary-General (A/58/756), the work programme for 2002-2003 approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/286 for improving security was largely implemented at the United Nations Offices at Vienna and Nairobi and at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA); at Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva the security-related infrastructure projects are still in various stages of implementation. The Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the uncommitted balance of funds under the account for construction in progress had been reduced from \$28.5 million as at 31 December 2003 to \$10.8

million as at 25 March 2004.<sup>2</sup> The bulk of the balance falls under the United Nations Office at Geneva (\$9.6 million) and Headquarters (\$1.1 million). According to the Secretariat, the total commitments of \$31.8 million under the construction-in-progress account as at 25 March 2004, include pre-encumbrances, disbursements and obligations, as follows:

| <i>Duty station</i> | <i>Disbursements</i>           | <i>Obligations</i> | <i>Pre-encumbrances</i> | <i>Total commitments</i> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|                     | <i>(United States dollars)</i> |                    |                         |                          |
| Headquarters        | 2 483 400                      | 1 763 700          | 20 594 500              | 24 841 600               |
| Geneva              | 66 200                         | 5 852 700          | -                       | 5 918 900                |
| Nairobi             | 11 600                         | 509 400            | -                       | 521 000                  |
| ECA                 | 9 300                          | 315 600            | -                       | 324 900                  |
| ECLAC               | 88 300                         | -                  | -                       | 88 300                   |
| ESCAP               | 50 800                         | 49 700             | -                       | 100 500                  |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>2 709 600</b>               | <b>8 491 100</b>   | <b>20 594 500</b>       | <b>31 795 200</b>        |

**The Advisory Committee has expressed its concern that the high level of pre-encumbrances is indicative of slow progress in the implementation of projects funded from the construction-in-progress account.** The Committee was informed on 2 April 2004 that the contract for the outstanding New York-based pre-encumbrance of \$21.6 million has been signed and obligations recorded in the same amount, and that there is no uncommitted balance for Headquarters in respect of appropriations for 2002-2003.

5. The report of the Secretary-General (A/58/756) contains proposals for a first phase of urgently required new measures for the strengthening of security and safety based on a review of arrangements at Headquarters and field locations. This is to be followed by a further report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session proposing a second phase of longer-term measures after the completion of an ongoing change management study on security arrangements. According to the Secretary-General, these two sets of measures will represent a comprehensive global response to the radically altered security situation which the Organization faces since the direct attacks on United Nations operations and facilities in 2003.

6. **The Advisory Committee is of the opinion that, optimally, resource requests for the strengthening of safety and security should be based on and preceded by a comprehensive and completed review of security arrangements, including the change management study referred to in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's report and specific information on arrangements for cooperation and collaboration with host country authorities and organizations of the United Nations system at each location. The piecemeal approach now being followed, especially so soon after the last and fairly recent round of comprehensive reviews and security enhancements, has made a proper consideration of the estimates very difficult.**

<sup>2</sup> Revised appropriation for 2002-2003 of \$42.6 million minus total commitments of \$31.8 million as at 25 March 2004.

7. The Advisory Committee was not provided with the necessary expert analysis, including information as to what kind of threat scenarios were assessed, the recommended responses and how these would translate into the resources requested in the report. These estimates, are in effect, being examined in isolation and not as a component of an overall and properly justified and prioritized programme of security enhancement. The Committee has borne the foregoing in mind during its consideration of the estimates, as well as the fact that more than two years after the issuance of the Secretary-General's last report on this matter (A/56/848; see also General Assembly resolution 56/286), significant elements of urgent need have still not been completed (see paras. 3 and 4 above).

### III. Resource requirements

#### A. Recommendations on posts

##### 1. Regular budget

8. *Three Local-level posts for security guards for the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process under section 3, Political affairs.* These posts are requested to supplement the 13 existing security-related posts of the Office. **The Advisory Committee recommends the establishment of these posts.**

9. *Two General Service (Other level) posts for security officers under section 7, International Court of Justice.* These posts are requested to strengthen security coverage of the entrance/reception area of the Peace Palace as well as for the Registry building, and to provide security coordination with the Carnegie Foundation. **The Advisory Committee recommends the establishment of these posts.**

10. *Two posts, one P-3 and one General Service (Other level) under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services.* These posts are requested to strengthen the existing capacity of the Fire and Safety Unit for hazardous material detection and response to biological threats. **The Advisory Committee recommends the establishment of these posts.**

11. *One hundred and sixteen posts, for 58 Field Security Officers, including 6 P-5 and 52 P-4/3, and 58 General Service (Local level) posts for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator under section 31, Jointly financed administrative activities.* These posts are to be deployed in the countries considered as having high security risk. As indicated in the report, the proposal is made "given the pressing need for immediate strengthening of the operations of the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and pending the recommendations from the review of the structure and procedures of security arrangements for the Organization as a whole to be submitted to the General Assembly in September". The Advisory Committee understands that 58 of these 116 posts already exist but are currently financed through extrabudgetary sources and are managed in the field by the United Nations Development Programme. **In view of uncertainties which exist with regard to continued assured funding for these posts, the Committee has no**

**objection to their conversion to regular budget financing, provided that cost-sharing arrangements are applied (see para. 31 below).**

**12. The Advisory Committee points out that no information was provided on whether, or to what extent, other alternatives have been considered in crisis management, such as responding to a crisis situation by dispatching a team of security officers.** The Committee recalls that the United Nations Security Coordinator informed the High-level Committee on Management of a new system of security management, whereby each field security officer is provided with a dedicated budget to permit him/her to operate effectively in the field, which would enable the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator “to react quickly by shifting field security officers from one duty station to another in response to crisis situations” (see CEB/2003/3, para. 10 (a)). **Moreover, in considering this request for additional posts, an analysis must be provided of the relationship between these resources and what would be available to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and through general temporary assistance.** The Committee notes that requests are made for security posts under the budgets of a number of United Nations peacekeeping operations and the equivalent of 164 security-related posts are requested under general temporary assistance, including 12 for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator (see paras. 14 and 16 below). The Committee has requested that the next report of the Secretary-General on security set forth definitive measures for cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator in the area of field security (see para. 30 below).

**13. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommends that action on the request for the remaining 58 additional posts for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator be deferred pending the comprehensive report on security to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session. In that report the human resource requirements of the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator should be analysed taking into account the concerns expressed above and complete and fully justified proposals should be made which would allow the Office to operate efficiently and effectively in the field. Pending such consideration, any extraordinary and/or urgent needs can be met, on a temporary basis, through redeployment of existing resources and/or by using extrabudgetary funds, should they materialize. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the staffing of the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator would involve a reduction of \$5,580,200 in the estimates for the United Nations regular budget and an increase of \$2,469,000 in the estimates for the costs to be funded by other United Nations organizations.**

## **2. Budgets of United Nations peacekeeping operations**

14. The following additional posts are requested for funding under the budgets of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

- (a) Two Field Service staff and 15 National Officers for MINURSO;
- (b) One P-3, Chief of Security, for UNDOF;
- (c) One P-3, Chief of Security, for UNIFIL;
- (d) Six (Field Service) security officers for UNOMIG.

15. The Committee has no objection to the proposed establishment of these posts. The Committee points out, however, that staff costs related to these posts should be accommodated within the budgets of individual peacekeeping operations and included in their performance reports. This recommendation would entail a reduction of \$1,514,900 from the proposed additional appropriation.

## B. General temporary assistance

16. An additional provision of \$6,209,700 is proposed under the regular budget for the six-month period from 1 July to 31 December 2004 under general temporary assistance to provide funding for 164 posts broken down by office/location and grade as follows:

|                                                                               | <i>D-1</i> | <i>P-5</i> | <i>P-4</i> | <i>P-3</i> | <i>P-2</i> | <i>GS/OL</i> | <i>SS</i> | <i>LL</i> | <i>FS</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management (Headquarters)           | -          | -          | 1          | -          | -          | 1            | -         | -         | -         | 2            |
| Department of Political Affairs (Headquarters)                                | -          | -          | 1          | -          | -          | -            | -         | -         | -         | 1            |
| Office of Central Support Services (Headquarters)                             | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | 10        | -         | -         | 10           |
| Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator (Headquarters)              | 1          | -          | 5          | 1          | -          | 5            | -         | -         | -         | 12           |
| Geneva                                                                        | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | 31           | -         | -         | -         | 31           |
| Vienna*                                                                       | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | 10        | -         | -         | 10           |
| Nairobi                                                                       | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 36        | -         | 36           |
| Addis Ababa                                                                   | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 10        | -         | 10           |
| Bangkok                                                                       | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 8         | -         | 8            |
| Beirut                                                                        | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 6         | -         | 6            |
| Santiago                                                                      | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 3         | -         | 3            |
| Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator (Middle East)                | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 3         | -         | 3            |
| UNAMA                                                                         | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | 10        | -         | -         | 10           |
| Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 1         | -         | 1            |
| UNMOGIP                                                                       | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -            | -         | 2         | 2         | 4            |
| UNTSO                                                                         | -          | -          | 1          | 1          | 1          | -            | -         | 9         | 5         | 17           |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                  | <b>1</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>8</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>37</b>    | <b>30</b> | <b>78</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>164</b>   |

\* Jointly financed activity which is cost-shared by the United Nations regular budget and other organizations.

17. **The Advisory Committee points out that very little information was received to support the level of general temporary assistance requested. As with other requests in the report of the Secretary-General, the request for general temporary assistance was difficult to analyse in the absence of a comprehensive and coherent plan which will be made available only in the autumn. Moreover, the Committee is of the opinion that the proposal lacks transparency; it had the impression that in a number of instances general temporary assistance was proposed instead of a higher number of additional posts, which would then be requested in future presentations as a conversion from general temporary assistance. Under the circumstances, the Committee recommends approval, at this time, of an additional \$3 million, as a lump sum to be used flexibly by the Secretary-General to meet urgent requirements arising between now and the time when the General Assembly takes action on the Secretary-General's "second phase" report.**

18. An additional provision of \$509,400 is requested under the budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the six-month period from 1 July to 31 December 2004 under general temporary assistance for 32 General Service (Local level) positions to provide enhanced round-the-clock security at various entrance and exit points of the Tribunal's headquarters. The additional 32 positions would augment the current security force of 44 General Service/Security Service and 59 General Service/Local level. **The Committee has no objection to the requested provision for general temporary assistance, but this provision should be accommodated within the budget of the Tribunal and included in the performance report.**

19. No additional provision for general temporary assistance is requested for the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

## **C. Other recommendations**

### **1. Infrastructure/premises under the United Nations regular budget**

20. An additional provision of \$38 million is requested under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance of the regular budget for improvements to premises. The provision represents one-time costs of security-related measures at Headquarters in New York, Geneva, Nairobi, and at ECA, ESCAP and ECLAC. The provision does not include the requirements for the United Nations Office at Vienna (see para. 26 below).

21. The estimated additional requirements of \$38 million for improvements of premises relate to the estimated cost of ongoing projects, that is, those which were proposed by the Secretary-General (see A/56/848) and approved by the General Assembly in resolution 56/286, and new projects, as follows:



| <i>Section 33. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance</i> | <i>Ongoing projects</i>        | <i>New projects</i> | <i>Total additional requirements</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                                                                                | <i>(United States dollars)</i> |                     |                                      |
| New York                                                                       | 11 829 200                     | 3 300 000           | 15 129 200                           |
| Geneva                                                                         | 9 702 000                      | 6 619 000           | 16 321 000                           |
| Nairobi                                                                        | 384 400                        | 2 994 000           | 3 378 400                            |
| ECA                                                                            | -                              | 2 220 000           | 2 220 000                            |
| ESCAP                                                                          | -                              | 774 600             | 774 600                              |
| ECLAC                                                                          | -                              | 210 000             | 210 000                              |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                   | <b>21 915 600</b>              | <b>16 117 600</b>   | <b>38 033 200</b>                    |

22. With regard to the security-related improvements of premises at Headquarters in New York, the Committee notes from annex II to the Secretary-General's report (A/58/756) that the implementation of a number of projects with a total estimated cost in excess of \$5 million are to be deferred to a "later stage". However, no information is provided on when the projects could be resumed. **Given the uncertainty with regard to the implementation date of these projects, the Committee questions the rationale for including their cost at this time.**

23. With regard to the requirements for the United Nations Office at Geneva, **the Committee is concerned about a very sharp increase in costs estimates for some ongoing projects; the Committee trusts that the report on security and safety to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session will provide detailed explanations of cost overruns. The Committee also expects that that report will propose comprehensive measures that would take into account the security concerns of all United Nations offices, agencies, funds and programmes at Geneva (see para. 33 below).**

24. The Committee was informed that the proposed additional requirements for Geneva include not only the cost of security improvements inside the premises but also the costs of strengthening the security perimeter, which were expected to be met by the Government of Switzerland; the Secretariat continues to raise the issue of the host country's responsibility for security improvements along the security perimeter and access to the Palais des Nations (see A/58/756, para. 37). **The Committee requests that the Secretary-General intensify his efforts in the ongoing negotiations on this matter with the host country. The Committee stresses that the security of the United Nations at every duty station is primarily the responsibility of the host country, which should provide all the required protection of the United Nations outside the perimeter of the United Nations district in that country. Assurances of host country cooperation should be included in the next report of the Secretary-General.**

25. Taking into account what has been stated in paragraphs 4 and 22 to 24 above, especially with regard to the pace of implementation of previously approved projects, the significant and, as yet, unexplained cost overruns for ongoing projects, and the lack of a comprehensive plan with well-explained priorities, **the Committee recommends deferral of the request of \$16.1 million for new projects pending consideration by the General Assembly of the**

**Secretary-General's forthcoming comprehensive report. The Committee notes that the unencumbered balance as at 31 December 2003 of \$28.5 million, and additional requirements of \$21.9 million for ongoing projects, total \$50.4 million. Notwithstanding the recent signing of construction contracts (see para. 4 above), the Committee is satisfied that there is a great deal of work on existing projects which can be carried out until the end of 2004.**

## **2. Infrastructure/premises at Vienna**

26. The United Nations share of the total of the estimated \$8.4 million additional requirement for the United Nations Office at Vienna amounts to \$1.9 million, which is budgeted for under grants and contributions. The Committee was informed that the secretariats of Vienna-based international organizations (the United Nations Office at Vienna, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization) and the host country authorities are still in consultations on issues related to the financing of security enhancement requirements. Information provided to the Committee confirms that all previously approved projects for the enhancement of security at Vienna have been completed. It was also confirmed to the Committee that participating administrations are in agreement as to the work to be carried out. **Under the circumstances, the Committee recommends approval of the proposals for Vienna, on the understanding that in his next report the Secretary-General will provide specific information on the results of the consultations now being carried out between the Vienna-based organizations and the host Government.**

## **3. Infrastructure/premises for peacekeeping operations**

27. A total additional provision of \$11,959,400 is made under the budgets of United Nations peacekeeping operations for improvements of facilities and infrastructure, as follows:

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| MONUC:    | \$1,521,300 |
| UNAMSIL:  | \$163,000   |
| UNDOF:    | \$63,200    |
| UNFICYP:  | \$2,176,900 |
| UNMEE:    | \$7,000,000 |
| UNMISSET: | \$345,000   |
| UNOMIG:   | \$690,000   |

This provision represents additional requirements over and above the estimates submitted by the Secretary-General in his budget estimates for peacekeeping operations for the financial period 2004/05. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that, with the exception of the requirements for UNMEE, where the additional resources are requested in connection with the relocation of the headquarters to a more secure location, and UNFICYP, which is facing unforeseen additional expenditure, additional requirements can be accommodated within the overall budgets of peacekeeping missions, and included in their performance reports. This recommendation would entail a**

reduction of \$2,782,500 in the proposed additional appropriation of \$11,959,400.

**4. Infrastructure/premises for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda**

28. An additional provision of \$100,500 is requested for the one-time cost of alteration and improvement of existing premises and security structures and the acquisition of related materials and equipment (see A/58/756, para. 90). **The Advisory Committee recommends that this provision be accommodated within the budget of the Tribunal and included in the performance report.**

**5. Responsibility and accountability**

29. **The Advisory Committee has repeatedly called for clear lines of responsibility and accountability for all participants in field security and it again emphasizes that requirement at this time. It points out that the mechanism of accountability and responsibility now in place does not address the relation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator.** The Committee recalls that it requested that efforts should be made to clarify the relationship and interaction between the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator and the Department (see A/56/619, para. 9); the Committee also stressed that, in view of the importance of a well-defined hierarchical security structure in the field, a prolonged discussion on defining clear lines of responsibility and staff accountability in ensuring the safety and security of staff would be unacceptable; the Committee called for the issue to be addressed expeditiously (ibid., para. 11).

30. In response to General Assembly resolution 56/255, the Secretary-General submitted a report on the framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system (A/57/365). During its review of that report, the Committee enquired whether the Department of Peacekeeping Operations was covered in the new mechanism of accountability and responsibility in the area of field security and was informed that the Secretary-General would report on the issue in the context of section VIII, paragraph 4, of General Assembly resolution 56/255, in which the Secretary-General was requested to conduct an evaluation of the United Nations security system, including the new security arrangements and the relationship and interaction between the Department and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and to report his findings and recommendations to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session; the Committee stressed the importance of the evaluation and urged its completion as soon as possible (see A/57/7/Add.11, para. 5). When the Secretary-General submitted his progress report on inter-organizational security measures (A/58/188), the Committee was informed that the Secretariat was continuing to assess the findings and recommendations of the independent evaluation called for under General Assembly resolution 56/255. **The Committee expects that the Secretary-General, in his further report on the second phase of longer-term security measures, will set forth definitive measures for cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator in the area of field security.**

## 6. Cost-sharing

31. As indicated in paragraph 20 of the Secretary-General's report (A/58/756), a proposal is made for the funding of the additional requirements of the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator entirely from the United Nations regular budget, a policy change from the current security funding arrangement established by the General Assembly in resolution 56/255.<sup>3</sup> The Assembly established a system of proportionate cost-sharing among United Nations organizations based on the size of those organizations' operations in the field. The rationale for the proposed change is set out in paragraphs 98 and 99 of the report. **The Advisory Committee points out that the United Nations Secretariat and United Nations organizations, funds and programmes share a common responsibility for the security and safety of their staff and it is in their interest to provide adequate and assured funding for security. The Committee is of the view that deficiencies in the current funding arrangement should be addressed in the context of inter-agency mechanisms for coordination and cooperation. The Committee reiterates its belief in the importance of adhering to shared financial responsibility in the coordinated management of the safety and security of United Nations personnel (see A/56/619, para. 15). Under the circumstances, the Committee recommends that requirements for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator be adjusted to reflect the application of cost-sharing; the United Nations share for objects of expenditure other than posts would be \$1.7 million, and the other participating organizations would be responsible for \$6.5 million. The Committee's recommendations on posts in the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator are contained in paragraphs 11 to 13 above.**

## 7. Future reporting

32. In paragraph 5 above, the Advisory Committee has made reference to the "second phase" report that the Secretary-General intends to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session. This report is to represent a "comprehensive global response" to the security situation which the Organization now faces. **It is imperative that the report of the Secretary-General set out a rational framework for the enhancement of security arrangements, based on the completion of all ongoing reviews, including the change management study. The report would indicate definite time frames for the completion of the various projects proposed as well as which organizational units are responsible for their completion.**

33. **The Advisory Committee points out that security affects all components of the United Nations system and not just the United Nations itself; irrespective of location it is the activities of the United Nations system that, unfortunately, have become potential targets. An integrated and coordinated approach by all organizations of the United Nations system is therefore required. Accordingly, the report should address security concerns for all activities and organizations under the United Nations umbrella. The report should aim at the establishment of a unified standard in terms of the level of security for each duty station, including access to the public and for New York it should spell out the**

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<sup>3</sup> However, a proportionate share of these costs, amounting to \$483,400, will be reimbursed to the United Nations by organizations not in the United Nations system.

implications for ongoing projects such as the capital master plan. It should elaborate on the role and responsibility of the United Nations vis-à-vis host countries in providing security to United Nations system premises and to field operations. It should also set forth definitive measures for cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator in the area of field security (see paras. 29 and 30 above).

34. The Advisory Committee also requests the Secretary-General, in his next report, to discuss the use of modern surveillance technology, including the impact of technological innovation on human resource requirements for security and their configuration, as well as physical fitness and skill requirements for security officers.

35. The report should be submitted early in the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, so as to give sufficient time for proper analysis and consideration by both the Advisory Committee and the General Assembly.

#### **IV. Conclusions of the Advisory Committee**

36. Paragraph 103 of the Secretary-General's report outlines the action to be taken by the General Assembly. **Taking into account its comments, observations and recommendations in the paragraphs above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly appropriate the amount of \$40 million (gross) under the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the implementation of the measures proposed by the Secretary-General to strengthen the security and safety of United Nations operations, staff and premises on an interim basis.**

37. Furthermore, it should be noted that for peacekeeping operations and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda the Committee has recommended that, at this stage, expenses estimated at \$4.9 million be accommodated within the existing budgets (\$4.3 million for peacekeeping operations and \$0.6 million for the Tribunal); such additional appropriations as may be necessary could be considered in the context of the relevant performance reports. It should also be noted that some \$8.9 million of the provision for the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator recommended by the Committee would be borne by the participating organizations under existing cost-sharing arrangements (see para. 31 above).

38. The Advisory Committee cautions that any additional appropriation that the General Assembly may wish to authorize in connection with the report of the Secretary-General (A/58/756) should be used strictly for the purposes for which the appropriation was authorized, that is, the security-related human resources and projects indicated in the Secretary-General's report.

#### **V. Recapitulation**

39. Compared with the request for \$85,965,800 (including staff assessment) submitted by the Secretary-General, the total resources which would be

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**available as a result of the Advisory Committee's recommendations would be as follows:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Additional gross appropriation under the proposed programme budget                                                                                                                                                   | \$40.0 million                    |
| Additional amount to be cost-shared by the organizations participating in the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator                                                                                      | \$8.9 million                     |
| Additional amount for peacekeeping operations of which \$4.3 million would not be appropriated at this stage but would be accommodated within existing budgets and reflected in the next performance report          | \$13.5 million                    |
| Additional amount for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda which would not be appropriated at this stage but would be accommodated within the existing budget and reflected in the next performance report | \$0.6 million                     |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>\$63.0 million<sup>4</sup></b> |

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<sup>4</sup> Reflects a reduction of \$0.5 million for staff assessment.