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**REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA
OF THE FORTY-THIRD SESSION**

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION

Addendum

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

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) (A/43/249/Add.1). During its consideration of the item, representatives of the Secretary-General provided additional information to the Advisory Committee.
2. UNAVEM was established pursuant to Security Council resolution 626 (1988) of 20 December 1988 for a period of 31 months. By the same resolution, the Council decided that the arrangements for the establishment of UNAVEM should enter into force as soon as the tripartite agreement between the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Cuba and the Republic of South Africa, on the one hand, and the bilateral agreement between the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Cuba on the other, were signed. These two agreements (S/20345 and A/43/989-S/20346) were signed on 22 December 1988. According to the Secretary-General, the mandate of UNAVEM, as stated in paragraph 2 of his report (A/43/249/Add.1) "would be to verify the redeployment northwards and the phased and total withdrawal of Cuban troops from the territory of Angola in accordance with the timetable agreed between Angola and Cuba".
3. In order to meet the immediate requirements of the Mission, the Secretary-General sought and received the concurrence of the Advisory Committee under the terms of General Assembly resolution 42/227 of 21 December 1987, on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1988-1989, to enter into commitments with respect to UNAVEM in an amount not to exceed \$4.2 million.

4. The report of the Secretary-General (A/43/249/Add.1) includes sections on the initial estimates for the period from 3 January 1989 to 2 August 1991, including information on the operational plan and the general assumptions on which the costs were based (paras. 6-10), and on the financial administration of UNAVEM (paras. 11-12). Details regarding the estimates are provided in annexes I to III to the report. In addition, annex IV contains information regarding provisional estimates for UNAVEM for the 19-month period beyond 3 January 1990. Action that needs to be taken by the General Assembly at its resumed forty-third session in respect of the financing of UNAVEM is summarized in paragraph 13 of the report.

5. In its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee has concentrated on the estimates relating to the initial 12-month period of UNAVEM commencing 3 January 1989. The Committee notes that the explanations regarding estimates for the 19-month period beyond 3 January 1990 are for informational purposes only and it expects to receive a further report from the Secretary-General during the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly to enable action on the remaining requirements of the Mission.

6. In paragraph 6 of his report, the Secretary-General indicates that the costs of UNAVEM for the 31-month period from 3 January 1989 to 2 August 1991 are estimated at \$19.4 million gross (\$18.8 million net) inclusive of the \$4.2 million commitment authority previously requested from the Advisory Committee (see para. 3 above). Of this amount, the Secretary-General indicates that \$9.2 million gross (\$9.0 million net) refers to the initial 12-month period from 3 January 1989 to 2 January 1990 and that \$10.2 million gross (\$9.8 million net) is provisionally estimated in respect of the 19-month period from 3 January 1990 to 2 August 1991 (see para. 5 above). The table below provides information regarding the cost estimates for the 12-month period from 3 January 1989 to 2 January 1990 and provisional cost estimates for the 19-month period from 3 January 1990 to 2 August 1991.

7. The Advisory Committee notes from the information in annex II of his report that the Secretary-General is estimating a total of \$3,121,000 to cover the cost of 70 military observers who will be phased in and out of the Mission. The Advisory Committee also notes from paragraph 9 (a) of the report that "this estimate may have to be adjusted upwards, depending on the number of seaports and airports that will ultimately be utilized for the withdrawal of Cuban troops and equipment from Angola". In paragraphs 11, 12, 13 and 15 below, the Advisory Committee has pointed out areas where savings are possible. The Advisory Committee expects that these will be taken into account in evaluating the need for additional resources (see para. 16 below).

8. The estimate of \$2,878,000 for salaries and related costs of civilian staff for the initial 12-month period (see A/43/249/Add.1, annex II, item 2) is based on a staffing table of 26 posts (see annex III), including three Professional-level posts (1 D-2, 1 P-5 and 1 P-4) and 23 posts in the Field Service/General Service category, in addition to 12 locally recruited staff. The Committee understands that the D-2 post is that of the Chief Military Observer.

Cost estimate for the 31-month period from 3 January 1989
to 2 August 1991

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	3 Jan. 1989 to 2 Jan. 1990 12 months	3 Jan. 1990 to 2 Aug. 1991 19 months	Total
1. <u>Military observers</u>			
(a) Mission subsistence allowance	2 806	4 100	6 906
(b) Official travel	301	770	1 071
(c) Uniform allowance	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>29</u>
	3 121	4 885	8 006
2. <u>Civilian staff costs</u>			
(a) International staff salaries	616	929	1 545
(b) Locally recruited staff salaries .	117	182	299
(c) Common staff costs	557	834	1 391
(d) Mission subsistence allowance	1 476	2 121	3 597
(e) Official travel	<u>112</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>243</u>
	2 878	4 197	7 075
3. <u>Maintenance of premises</u>			
(a) Maintenance of premises	19	31	50
(b) Utilities	24	38	62
(c) Sanitation and cleaning materials	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>
	49	77	126
4. <u>Purchase of transportation equipment</u>			
(a) Vehicles	705	-	705
(b) Vehicle spare parts	71	90	161
(c) Petrol, oil and lubricants	55	88	143
(d) Vehicle workshop equipment	55	-	55
(e) Vehicle insurance	<u>17</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>45</u>
	903	206	1 109

	3 Jan. 1989 to 2 Jan. 1990 12 months	3 Jan. 1990 to 2 Aug. 1991 19 months	Total
5. <u>Purchase of communications equipment and services</u>			
(a) Communications equipment	833	-	833
(b) Generators	164	-	164
(c) Maintenance and workshop equipment	80	-	80
(d) Communications supplies and spare parts	80	19	99
(e) Telephones, telex, post office box rentals and pouch services	<u>31</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>80</u>
	<u>1 188</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>1 256</u>
6. <u>Purchase of other equipment</u>			
Office furniture and equipment ...	<u>130</u>	=	<u>130</u>
7. <u>Supplies and services</u>			
(a) External audit	10	10	20
(b) Office hospitality	6	9	15
(c) Miscellaneous services	17	28	45
(d) Medical supplies and services	25	40	65
(e) Stationery and office supplies ...	25	40	65
(f) Subscriptions	8	12	20
(g) Uniform clothing and other supplies	<u>17</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>45</u>
	<u>108</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>275</u>
8. <u>Freight and cartage</u>	469	31	500
9. <u>Death and disability awards</u>	116	184	300
10. <u>Staff assessment</u>	231	365	596
Total, lines 1-10	<u>9 193</u>	<u>10 180</u>	<u>19 373</u>
11. <u>Income from staff assessment</u>	(231)	(365)	(596)
Total net	<u>8 962</u>	<u>9 815</u>	<u>18 777</u>

9. The Secretary-General is estimating \$557,000 for common staff costs (item 2 (c)) and \$1,476,000 for mission subsistence allowance (item 2 (d)). The Advisory Committee intends to look more closely at these items of expenditure in the light of actual experience and will revert to the matter in the context of its consideration of future Mission requirements.
10. According to item 3 (see A/43/249/Add.1, annex II) the Secretary-General is estimating \$49,000 for maintenance of premises. The Advisory Committee inquired regarding the rental costs of premises and was informed that, as indicated in paragraph 10 (b) (ii) of the Secretary-General's report, the host Government would provide, at its costs, the office accommodation required by UNAVEM. On that basis, no provision was made in the UNAVEM budget for rental of office premises. The Committee was informed, however, that to date difficulties had been experienced in locating suitable space. The Advisory Committee intends to monitor this situation closely and expects to be kept informed of developments.
11. The Secretary-General is estimating \$903,000 for the purchase of transportation equipment (item 4). This expenditure during the initial 12-month period will cover requirements for the entire mandate for vehicles and workshop equipment. Given the mission of UNAVEM, the Committee questions the need for the number of vehicles, particularly jeeps, that are being requested. The Committee believes that savings could be achieved in this area as well as in related expenditures on petrol, oil and lubricants and vehicle insurance.
12. Included in the estimate of \$903,000 under item 4 is a provision of \$117,500 for freight costs. The Advisory Committee was informed that this amount related to the cost of chartering an aircraft to transport initial supplies of vehicles to Angola. In addition, the Committee notes that under item 8 (Freight and cartage), the Secretary-General is estimating \$450,000 for air freight costs to ship vehicles and communications equipment to Angola. The Advisory Committee believes that more economic means of transport should be explored and that significant savings could be achieved with respect to transportation of equipment and supplies.
13. The Secretary-General estimates a total of \$1,188,000 for the purchase of communications equipment and services (item 5 of A/43/249/Add.1, annex II). Given the nature of this Mission (see also para. 11 above), the Advisory Committee is not convinced that the need exists for the quantity of material listed under items 5 (a) and 5 (c). Moreover, the Committee was unable to satisfy itself that unit prices for a number of items represented the lowest cost available. For example, under item 5 (c) four workbenches are listed as costing \$6,400, four stools at \$2,000 and two tool kits at \$2,400. The Committee believes that with prudent management and strict control, economies can be achieved in this area.
14. In connection with paragraphs 11 and 13 above, the Advisory Committee trusts that adequate provision is being made for the eventual disposition of equipment being purchased in connection with UNAVEM, including its utilization by other missions at the end of the mandate of UNAVEM.
15. With prudent management and strict control, economies can also be achieved in supplies and services, which are estimated at \$108,000 under item 7.

16. In paragraphs 11, 12, 13 and 15 above, the Advisory Committee has indicated areas where savings can be achieved, bearing in mind that the nature of this operation and its requirements are not identical to those of other United Nations operations. However, in the absence of actual experience, the Committee is not recommending a reduction in the estimates of the Secretary-General at this time. The Committee trusts that the further report on UNAVEM to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session will include information on the performance of the UNAVEM budget, including the possibilities of savings; the Advisory Committee will take this into account in its consideration of the future needs of the Mission.

17. Bearing this in mind, the Committee recommends approval of the Secretary-General's estimate of \$9,193,000 gross (\$8,962,000 net) for the period from 3 January 1989 to 2 January 1990. This amount includes the \$4.2 million commitment authority that the Committee had previously approved.
