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Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the performance report on the budget of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.

The total expenditure for MINURSO for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 has been linked to the Mission's objective through a number of results-based frameworks, grouped by component: substantive civilian, military and support.

Performance of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

Category	Apportionment	Expenditure	Variance	
			Amount	Percentage
Military and police personnel	6 432.8	6 217.6	215.2	3.3
Civilian personnel	17 545.0	15 807.2	1 737.8	9.9
Operational costs	21 562.6	20 323.6	1 239.0	5.7
Gross requirements	45 540.4	42 348.4	3 192.0	7.0
Staff assessment income	2 508.0	2 191.5	316.5	12.6
Net requirements	43 032.4	40 156.9	2 875.5	6.7
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	3 118.1	3 761.3	(643.2)	(20.6)
Total requirements	48 658.5	46 109.7	2 548.8	5.2

Human resources incumbency performance

Category	Approved ^a	Actual (average)	Vacancy rate (percentage) ^b
Military observers	203	195	4.1
Military contingents	27	27	0
United Nations police ^c	8	6	27.1
International staff ^c	145	125	14.0
National staff	128	104	18.6
Government-provided personnel	10	4	60.8

^a Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

^b Based on monthly incumbency and approved monthly strength.

^c Excluding 157 international staff posts and 73 United Nations police authorized for the Identification Commission for which no budget provision had been made, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General on the budget for MINURSO for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/58/657).

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section V of the present report.

I. Introduction

1. The budget for the maintenance of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 was set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 20 December 2004 (A/59/629) and amounted to \$46,328,400 gross (\$43,694,400 net), inclusive of budgeted voluntary contributions in kind of \$3,118,100. It provided for resource requirements for the maintenance of the Mission and the deployment of 203 military observers, 27 military contingents, 8 United Nations police, 145 international staff, 128 national staff and 10 Government-provided personnel. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the General Assembly appropriate \$45,641,800 gross (\$43,105,900 net) for the same period (A/59/736/Add.5, para. 33).

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution A/59/308, appropriated an amount of \$45,540,400 gross for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006. That amount has been assessed on Member States.

II. Mandate performance

3. The mandate of the Mission was established by the Security Council in its resolution 690 (1991). The mandate for the performance period was provided by the Council in its resolutions 1598 (2005), 1675 (2006) and 1720 (2006).

4. The Mission is mandated to help the Security Council achieve an overall objective, namely, a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

5. Within this overall objective, the Mission has, during the reporting period, contributed to a number of accomplishments by delivering related key outputs, shown in the frameworks below. These frameworks are grouped by component: substantive civilian, military and support.

6. The present report assesses actual performance against the planned results-based frameworks set out in the 2005/06 budget. In particular, the performance report compares the actual indicators of achievement, that is, the extent to which actual progress has been made during the period against the expected accomplishments, with the planned indicators of achievement and compares the actually completed outputs with the planned outputs.

Component 1: substantive civilian

Expected accomplishment 1.1: progress towards the political settlement of the final status of Western Sahara

*Planned indicators of achievement**Actual indicators of achievement*

1.1.1 Direct dialogue between the parties No direct dialogue took place

<i>Planned outputs</i>	<i>Completed (number or yes/no)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Regular high-level political consultations by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General with the parties, neighbouring countries and key Member States	Yes	<p>The Special Representative of the Secretary-General held introductory meetings with the parties (Morocco and the Frente Polisario) and neighbouring countries (Algeria and Mauritania) in September 2005. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General held further high-level meetings with the parties in April 2006, and more regular meetings with the parties occurred throughout the reporting period</p> <p>The Special Representative of the Secretary-General accompanied the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara on his mission to the region in October 2005. Approximately 17 meetings with the parties and neighbouring States were held during the visit</p>
Political briefings and escorts to 12 visiting Member State delegations and 6 visiting non-governmental, international, governmental and media organizations	14	Diplomatic delegations
	10	Visiting journalists were provided with briefings and escorts. Requests for information were answered on a regular basis
4 reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council	2	The Secretary-General briefed the Security Council in October 2005 and April 2006. On each occasion, the Council renewed the Mission's mandate for a six-month period
Continuation of confidence-building measures between the parties, including the family visits programme, telephone service and the regular mail exchange programme covering all refugee camps and locations of origin of the refugees	Yes	<p>18 family exchange visits took place as part of the confidence-building measures programme. This is less than what was planned as the programme was suspended by the parties until early 2006 and was again suspended in May 2006. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and MINURSO continue their efforts to resume the visits as soon as possible</p> <p>The telephone communication programme was maintained for 5 refugee camps. Dakhla camp remains without telephone service because of technical difficulties resulting from the terrain and the distance between Dakhla camp and the communications hub</p>

		The postal service has never been implemented because of objections by both parties
180 summaries of local/international media in 4 languages on regional and international issues related to Western Sahara for Member States	322	1 summary per weekday and 1 per weekend, excluding holidays; plus 20 special issues on pertinent topics, or (5 days x 52 weeks) + (1 x 52 weekends) + 20 special topics - 10 holidays
22 press releases in support of the confidence-building measures humanitarian programme, including support for funding appeals of UNHCR	2	MINURSO issued 2 press releases in respect of the resumption of the family visits programme. MINURSO also held 3 meetings with UNHCR to review implementation of the programme

Expected accomplishment 1.2: progress towards resolution of humanitarian issues, in particular those related to prisoners of war, refugees and persons unaccounted for

<i>Planned indicators of achievement</i>	<i>Actual indicators of achievement</i>	
1.2.1 Monthly food delivery to all 5 refugee camps	Achieved.	A total of 6 refugee camps received regular food deliveries
1.2.2 Release of all remaining prisoners of war	Achieved	
<i>Planned outputs</i>	<i>Completed (number or yes/no)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
4 meetings with donor countries and the World Food Programme on assessment of the food situation	2	Donor meetings aimed at garnering support to address humanitarian requirements resulting from damage to the refugee camps caused by floods
4 political analysis/recommendations reports for the parties on prisoners of war, persons unaccounted for and refugees	No	Not required for prisoners of war since the Frente Polisario released all remaining prisoners of war in August 2005

Component 2: military

Expected accomplishment 2.1: compliance of the parties with the ceasefire agreements

<i>Planned indicators of achievement</i>	<i>Actual indicators of achievement</i>	
Zero serious violations of ceasefire and related agreements	No serious violation of the ceasefire. This includes no offensive operations across the buffer strip and no exchange of weapons fire between parties	20 violations of Military Agreement No. 1 that were not serious. This includes concentration of troops, military patrols into the buffer strip and unauthorized deployments and constructions

<i>Planned outputs</i>	<i>Completed (number or yes/no)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Bimonthly liaison meetings with local commanders and high-ranking military officers from both parties	25	Meetings The MINURSO Force Commander held 15 liaison meetings with the Royal Moroccan Army commanders and 10 with the Frente Polisario commanders
23,360 United Nations military observer mobile patrol person days (4 United Nations military observers per patrol x 16 patrols per day x 365 days)	28,600	United Nations military observers conducted 7,150 patrols, which add up to 28,600 patrol person days (4 military observers per patrol) More patrols were conducted owing to the introduction of a new concept of operations
208 military observers to conduct liaison day visits to units and headquarters of the armed forces of both parties (4 military observers per visit x once per week x 52 weeks)	Yes	
733 air-patrol hours from 9 team sites for inspection of 4,312 military units of both parties	706	A total of 706 air-patrol hours for the reporting period. Air patrols were disrupted during the change in air operations contracts, which resulted in a loss of 19 days in December 2005 A total of 16,986 military units were inspected/visited by both ground and air patrols. In the present format, the data cannot be split between air and ground patrols
Ad hoc inspections by air and ground of strong points along the 2,200-km-long berm	No	Visits to strong points by air were not possible owing to the risk from mines and unexploded ordnance and air safety regulations. Ground patrols to strong points were conducted, but were denied entry to inspect weapons
Investigations of alleged violations of ceasefire agreements by either party as required	6	Allegations were investigated

Expected accomplishment 2.2: reduction in mine threats on both sides of the berm

<i>Planned indicators of achievement</i>	<i>Actual indicators of achievement</i>
Zero persons killed/injured by exploded mines/ordnance	No fatal accident occurred during the reporting period. 1 Royal Morocco Army soldier was injured when he stepped on an anti-personnel mine

<i>Planned outputs</i>	<i>Completed (number or yes/no)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Marking of unexploded ordnance and monitoring of disposal operations	Yes	56 mines/unexploded ordnance marked by MINURSO 125 mines/unexploded ordnance destroyed by the Royal Moroccan Army. Destruction monitored by MINURSO 1,544 expired ammunition destroyed by the Royal Moroccan Army. Destruction monitored by MINURSO
Support for establishment of the electronic database on mines and unexploded ordnance	No	MINURSO team sites currently maintain information in Excel databases. The Information Management System for Mine Action database could not be deployed during the budget period 2005/06 since its development by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining had not been completed. The database is expected to be established during the budget period for 2006/07

Component 3: support

Expected accomplishment 3.1: effective and efficient logistical, administrative and security support to the Mission

<i>Planned indicators of achievement</i>	<i>Actual indicators of achievement</i>
3.1.1 Reduction in the number of major traffic accidents involving United Nations vehicles from 7 in 2003/04 to 0 in 2005/06	The Mission incurred 9 major accidents (defined as those in which damages exceed \$500), 4 of which were incurred by military personnel and 5 by civilian staff, compared with 5 in the previous period. The total repair cost for the 9 vehicles was \$11,800, an average of \$1,311 each. Eight of the vehicles were repaired and 1 presented for write-off, since the cost of repair (\$2,133) exceeded the residual value of the vehicle (\$2,336)
3.1.2 Reduction in the recruitment time for national staff from 8 weeks in 2004/05 to 5 weeks in 2005/06	While there was success with some posts in meeting the 5-week recruitment deadline, other posts took up to 6.5 months to fill. A freeze on recruitment of numerous posts during 2005/06 was implemented while waiting for the recommendation (and impact on the Mission's staffing structure) of the mission management assessment undertaken in May 2005, which contributed to posts remaining vacant. In addition, the MINURSO Personnel Section experienced considerable turnover of staff and understaffing during the budget period, which contributed to delays in the recruitment process

<i>Planned outputs</i>	<i>Completed (number or yes/no)</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Service improvements		
Implementation of safe driving enforcement programmes	Yes	A road safety week campaign was launched
Implementation of improved national staff recruitment process	Yes	By the end of the budget period, a better organized and managed recruitment process was implemented. A log and filing system was established. The process has been centralized, with 1 staff member designated to ensure full knowledge and responsibility. Multiple vacancies are now consolidated into one advertisement for cost and time efficiency. Rosters of qualified candidates from one advertisement may be used to fill related vacant functions
Military personnel		
Emplacement, rotation and repatriation for an average strength of 230 military personnel	226	Average strength of military personnel in the Mission during the budget year. The high vacancy rate of military observer personnel was the result of delayed deployments, unexpected early repatriations (for example, for medical reasons), and contributions from troop-contributing countries being slightly less than authorized
Supply and storage of rations and bottled water for an average strength of 230 military personnel	226	Military personnel supplied. Ready-to-eat meals and bottled water are stored at the team site level and in the Laayoune warehouse Fresh rations are delivered to team sites from Laayoune. The contractor has fresh items in storage, as per contract. In the team sites, a stock is kept by the military observers of about 14 days
Civilian personnel		
Administration of an average number of 145 international and 128 national staff	125	Average international staff and
	104	Average national staff Delays in the recruitment process and a freeze on recruitment implemented during budget period 2005/06 while awaiting the impact of the mission management assessment on the future staffing structure of the Mission contributed to the understaffing. The Mission Management Assessment report was submitted pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1570 (2004) and 1598 (2005), whereby the Council requested a comprehensive review of the structure of the administrative and other civilian components of MINURSO

Facilities and infrastructure

Maintenance and repair of 16 facilities and 280 prefabricated buildings in 12 locations	16	Facilities
	280	Prefabricated containers
		During the reporting period, 2 sector headquarters (Smara and Dakhla) and 1 team site (Dakhla) were closed. A total of 16 facilities were repaired: headquarters; the Identification Commission; the MINURSO Logistics Base; 2 sector headquarters; 10 team sites; and the Tindouf Liaison Office. Services were provided to 280 prefabricated containers in 12 locations. General upkeep includes preventive maintenance and short work orders in relation to facilities accommodation for various uses, power and water supply and sanitation, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, camp equipment and environmental clean-up
Operation and maintenance of 44 generators in 16 facilities	Yes	Power was maintained at 100 per cent reliability in all 16 facilities of the Mission as enumerated above

Ground transportation

Operation and maintenance of 303 vehicles	303	Vehicles maintained comprising 254 light and 49 heavy vehicles. The latter include heavy cargo trucks, a fuel diesel tanker, engineering equipment, cranes, recovery trucks and forklifts
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Air transportation

Operation and maintenance of 3 fixed-wing and 3 rotary-wing aircraft	3	Fixed-wing aircraft
	3	Rotary-wing aircraft

Communications

Support and maintenance of 4 PABX telephone systems, 14 transponders, 14 satellite Earth stations, VHF, HF and microwave communication systems in 12 locations, including confidence-building measures project	4	PABX telephone systems
	14	Satellite Earth stations and microwave systems supported in 12 locations through regular maintenance and replacement of outdated equipment
		Support for the confidence-building measures telephone project for 5 refugee camps. UNHCR reimburses MINURSO for the cost of telephone charges

Information technology

Support and maintenance of wide-area network, 426 desktops, 60 laptops, 288 printers and 17 servers in 12 locations	Yes	Regular maintenance trip to 19 team sites with an average of 18 computers per site
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Medical

Operation and maintenance of level-I medical services for Mission personnel and local civilian population in emergency cases	Yes	The operations and maintenance of the level-I medical services were carried out for all the visits, check-ups, medical appointments and evacuations broken down as follows:
	3 827	Visits
	388	Medical check-ups
	31	Medical appointments
	6	Medical evacuations
	1	Casualty evacuation
Operation and maintenance of HIV voluntary confidential counselling and testing facilities for all personnel	No	Counselling was not available due to lack of expertise
HIV sensitization programme for all personnel, including peer education	2	HIV/AIDS task force conferences. Also, observation of World AIDS Day

Security

Provision of guard services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to 6 facilities in 4 locations	Yes	Guard services provided by 39 security personnel
Revised security plan	Yes	1 security plan completed
Training of all new staff on security matters	Yes	Warden training and security briefing provided to 150 MINURSO personnel

III. Resource performance

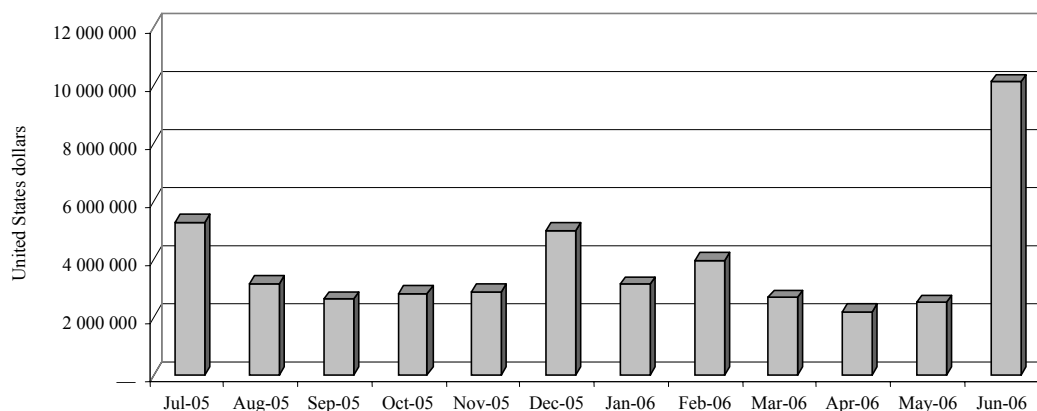
A. Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006.)

Category	Apportionment (1)	Expenditure (2)	Variance	
			Amount (3)=(1)-(2)	Percentage (4)=(3)÷(1)
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	5 525.6	5 360.3	165.3	3.0
Military contingents	705.8	730.1	(24.3)	(3.4)
United Nations police	201.4	127.2	74.2	36.8
Formed police units	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	6 432.8	6 217.6	215.2	3.3
Civilian personnel				
International staff	15 370.4	14 080.7	1 289.7	8.4
National staff	2 174.6	1 726.5	448.1	20.6
United Nations Volunteers	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	17 545.0	15 807.2	1 737.8	9.9
Operational costs				
General temporary assistance	—	46.1	(46.1)	—
Government-provided personnel	108.8	35.1	73.7	67.7
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	32.0	3.7	28.3	88.5
Official travel	419.1	428.9	(9.8)	(2.3)
Facilities and infrastructure	2 681.9	4 111.4	(1 429.5)	(53.3)
Ground transportation	2 590.8	2 471.5	119.3	4.6
Air transportation	12 432.4	9 917.6	2 514.8	20.2
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—
Communications	1 587.0	1 318.4	268.6	16.9
Information technology	664.9	875.3	(210.4)	(31.6)
Medical	274.1	236.8	37.3	13.6
Special equipment	27.6	167.8	(140.2)	(508.0)
Other supplies, services and equipment	744.0	711.0	33.0	4.4
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	21 562.6	20 323.6	1 239.0	5.7
Gross requirements	45 540.4	42 348.4	3 192.0	7.0
Staff assessment income	2 508.0	2 191.5	316.5	12.6
Net requirements	43 032.4	40 156.9	2 875.5	6.7
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted) ^a	3 118.1	3 761.3	(643.2)	(20.6)
Total requirements	48 658.5	46 109.7	2 548.8	5.2

^a Actual budgeted voluntary contributions include \$420,300 from the Government of Algeria, \$3,131,000 from the Government of Morocco and \$210,000 from the Frente Polisario.

B. Monthly expenditure pattern



7. The expenditure peak in July 2005 was due mainly to the raising of most of the obligations for commercial aircraft for the budget period as well as the obligations for aircraft petrol, oil and lubricants. The spending peak in December 2005 was attributable mainly to the raising of obligations for the purchase of ground transport vehicles, disbursements to commercial vendors for air transport services and disbursements for rations and petrol, oil and lubricants for air transport. In June 2006, the majority of disbursements took place, including those for payment of invoices for the purchase of ground transport vehicles and equipment, disbursements to commercial vendors for air transport services and disbursements for supplies and services in other areas provided by different vendors in connection with the closure of the Mission's accounts for the reporting period. In addition, the expenditure peak in June 2006 was due to the recording of voluntary contributions in kind.

C. Other income and adjustments

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Interest income	166.5
Other/miscellaneous income	254.2
Voluntary contributions in cash	—
Prior-period adjustments	(3.0)
Savings on or cancellation of prior-period obligations	856.3
Total	1 274.0

D. Expenditure for contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>		
Major equipment			
Military observers	68.2		
Subtotal	68.2		
Self-sustainment			
Facilities and infrastructure			
Catering (kitchen facilities)	—		
Office equipment	—		
Electrical	—		
Minor engineering	—		
Laundry and cleaning	5.3		
Tentage	—		
Accommodation	—		
Miscellaneous general stores	1.4		
Unique equipment			
Communications			
Communications	19.1		
Medical			
Medical services	62.4		
Special equipment			
Explosive ordnance disposal	—		
Observation	—		
Identification	—		
Nuclear, biological and chemical protection	—		
Field defence stores	—		
Subtotal	88.2		
Total	156.4		
<i>Mission factors</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Effective date</i>	<i>Last review date</i>
Applicable to Mission area			
Extreme environmental condition factor	1.9	1998	1998
Intensified operational condition factor	1.5	1998	1998
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	2.1	1998	1998

E. Value of non-budgeted contributions

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Actual value</i>
Status-of-forces agreement	2 320.5
Voluntary contributions in kind	—
Total	2 320.5

IV. Analysis of variances¹

	<i>Variance</i>	
Military observers	\$165.3	3.0%

8. The unutilized balance was attributable mainly to the actual average cost per rotation of \$4,792 for an average of 175 military observers compared with \$5,000 per rotation for 203 military observers provided for in the budget. The unutilized balance was also attributable to the higher average actual vacancy rate of 4.1 per cent compared with the rate of zero per cent applied in the budget.

	<i>Variance</i>	
United Nations police	\$74.2	36.8%

9. The unutilized balance was owing mainly to the lower actual average strength of 6 United Nations police deployed compared with the budgeted average strength of 8 during the reporting period.

	<i>Variance</i>	
International staff	\$1 289.7	8.4%

10. The unutilized balance was attributable mainly to an overall actual vacancy rate of 14 per cent for international staff compared with the 6 per cent vacancy rate applied in the budget.

	<i>Variance</i>	
National staff	\$448.1	20.6%

11. The unutilized balance was attributable mainly to an overall actual vacancy rate of 18.6 per cent for national staff compared with the 2 per cent vacancy rate applied in the budget.

¹ Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent and \$100,000.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Government-provided personnel	\$73.7	67.7%

12. The budget provided for the payment of mission subsistence allowance to five personnel. However, only four personnel were deployed and only two of them were entitled to mission subsistence allowance, which was the main contributing factor to the reduced requirements.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Consultants	\$28.3	88.5%

13. The reduced requirements were due largely to the cancellation of the budgeted information technology training consultants and the recording of the charges related to the language training consultants against the training fees, supplies and services budget item under the class of other supplies, services and equipment.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Facilities and infrastructure	(\$1 429.5)	(53.3%)

14. Additional requirements resulted mainly from a number of security enhancement projects, including the construction of perimeter walls, speed bumps and watchtowers as well as the installation of metal gates, boom barriers and external security light poles at all Mission facilities in 11 locations following a security management assessment for the Mission by the Department of Safety and Security.

15. The additional requirements also resulted from the higher average fuel cost of \$0.50 per litre during the reporting period than the \$0.33 per litre used in the budget and from the partial settlement of bulk fuel invoices for ground transportation under facilities and infrastructure owing to the fact that the vendor issued one invoice to cover the collection of bulk fuel under both facilities and infrastructure and ground transportation.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Ground transportation	\$119.3	4.6%

16. As stated in paragraph 15 above, the unutilized balance was attributable mainly to the partial settlement of the bulk fuel invoice, which belongs to facilities and infrastructure, under this heading owing to the fact that the vendor issued one invoice to cover the collection of bulk fuel under both facilities and infrastructure and ground transportation.

17. The unutilized balance was partially offset by additional requirements resulting from a higher average fuel cost of \$0.50 per litre during the reporting period than the \$0.33 per litre used in the budget.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Air transportation	\$2 514.8	20.2%

18. The unutilized balance resulted mainly from the lower than planned number of hours flown for helicopter operations. The cost estimate for the rental of helicopters provided for 2,940 flight hours. Owing to an early termination of the contract in December 2005, only two helicopters were repositioned in the same month to MINURSO, while the third helicopter was repositioned only in March 2006 as a result of the failure by the vendor to address maintenance problems. Therefore, the Mission's helicopters flew only 1,853 hours during the reporting period.

19. The unutilized balance was offset partially by the additional requirements for petrol, oil and lubricants owing to the increase in the per litre cost of fuel from \$0.62 in July 2005 to \$0.73 in June 2006 compared with the budgeted per litre cost of \$0.43.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Communications	\$268.6	16.9%

20. The unutilized balance was due mainly to the reduction of the prorated share paid by MINURSO for the rental of satellite transponders as a result of the establishment and expansion of peacekeeping missions.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Information technology	(\$210.4)	(31.6%)

21. Additional requirements were due mainly to the unbudgeted purchase of satellite imagery, LPS core software and Arc Info software for the implementation of the Geographic Information System to enable the Mission to produce accurate operational maps for planning purposes and to enhance the safety and security of staff and military observers in the presence of mines and unexploded munitions.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Medical	\$37.3	13.6%

22. The unutilized balance was due mainly to the cancellation of the purchase of an X-ray machine, since the current Medical Unit is providing one to the Mission as contingent-owned equipment.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Special equipment	(\$140.2)	(508%)

23. The additional requirements were attributable mainly to the unbudgeted acquisition of the night-vision devices identified and recommended as an immediate operational requirement by the military operational audit of MINURSO that was conducted in June 2005.

V. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

24. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of MINURSO are:

(a) To decide that Member States shall waive their respective shares in other income for the period ended 30 June 2006 amounting to \$1,274,000 and their respective shares in the amount of \$191,700 from the unencumbered balance of \$3,192,000 for the period ended 30 June 2006, to be applied to meeting the current and future after-service health insurance liabilities of the United Nations;

(b) To decide on the treatment of the remaining unencumbered balance of \$3,000,300 for the period ended 30 June 2006.
