



Security Council

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Letter dated 30 November 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the local elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which are expected to be held in the latter half of 2008. On 11 October 2007, I addressed a letter to the President of the Security Council, in which I noted the progress in the preparation for these local elections and requested the Council to authorize the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) to provide full support to the Congolese authorities in the conduct of these elections. The issue of the local elections was also addressed in my twenty-fourth report to the Council on MONUC (S/2007/671), submitted to the Council on 14 November 2007.

Several members of the Security Council have requested additional information concerning the cost and financial requirements for MONUC's support to the local elections. In this regard, please find attached the preliminary estimates for MONUC's support to these elections (see annexes I and II). I trust that this information will assist Member States in their consideration of this issue. I should be grateful if you could bring the present letter and its annexes to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Ban Ki-moon**



Annex I

Brief explanation for the additional preliminary and indicative requirements during the local elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Class 223: United Nations Volunteers

1. A total of \$4.26 million is estimated for 28 United Nations Volunteers for the period from January to June 2008 and 138 Volunteers for the period from July through December 2008. Twenty-eight Volunteers will be required for an additional three-month period, up to the end of March 2009. The Volunteers will contribute to strengthening the Mission's capacity in the field before and during the elections.

Class 224: General temporary assistance

2. A total of \$12.69 million is proposed for general temporary assistance, including a proposal for 58 international staff and 71 national staff, inclusive of 2 national officers, for the period from January through June 2008. In addition, the proposal includes 100 international staff and 179 national staff, inclusive of 2 national officers, for the period from July through December 2008. A gradual drawdown of staff will take effect from January to June 2009. The proposed staffing will include human rights and electoral officers as well as support staff who will be responsible for strengthening the Mission's capacity in the field before and during the elections. The requirement for the staff 10 months ahead of the elections is due to the severe lack of capacity within the Congolese electoral commission, due both to the enhanced complexity of the local elections as well as to significant loss of personnel since the 2006 elections. The registration will involve 200,000 candidates as opposed to 22,500 during the 2006 elections, and the candidates will be serving 6,037 constituencies as opposed to 385 during the 2006 elections. In addition, the counting of the votes will take place in 169 compilation centres as opposed to 62 during the 2006 elections.

Class 230: Facilities and infrastructure

3. A total of \$1.1 million is proposed for facilities and infrastructure, mainly to cover for the cost of tents, refrigerator equipment, generators, accommodation equipment and office furniture. Stationery items and fuel for generators are also included in this estimate.

Class 231: Ground transportation

4. A total of \$2.56 million is proposed for ground transportation, mainly for an additional 156 sedan vehicles and 262,080 litres of diesel, calculated at 8 litres per day for seven months.

Class 232: Air transportation

5. A total of \$64.55 million is proposed for air transportation, mainly to cover the rental of operation, fuel and insurance for an additional 6 fixed-wing and 29 rotary-wing aircraft to be used for movement of electoral equipment, personnel and observers to the main hubs and electoral sites. The aircraft will be required for a total of 184 days.

Class 234: Communications

6. A total of \$279 thousand is proposed for communications, mainly for an additional 200 items of telephone equipment and for commercial communications required during the election period.

Class 235: Information technology

7. A total of \$112 thousand is proposed for information technology, mainly for an additional 50 laptops, including services and licenses required during the election period.

8. It should be noted that the above figures are preliminary and indicative in nature and will be subject to full review by the General Assembly in the context of the MONUC budget for the 2008/09 period if the Security Council authorizes the Mission to fully support the elections.

Annex II

United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Preliminary and indicative financial implications

Summary statement: Support for local elections 2008-2009^a

(In thousands of United States dollars)

| | <i>Cost estimates Jan.-June 2008</i> | <i>Cost estimates July 2008-June 2009</i> | <i>Total cost estimates</i> |
|--|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Military observers | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Military contingents | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Civilian police | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Formed police units | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| International staff | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| National staff | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| United Nations Volunteers | 284 | 3 977 | 4 261 |
| General temporary assistance | 3 061 | 9 632 | 12 693 |
| Government-provided personnel | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Civilian electoral observers | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Consultants | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Official travel | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Facilities and infrastructure | 0 | 1 091 | 1 091 |
| Ground transportation | 0 | 2 564 | 2 564 |
| Air transportation | 0 | 64 549 | 64 549 |
| Naval transportation | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Communications | 0 | 279 | 279 |
| Information technology | 0 | 112 | 112 |
| Medical | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Special equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other supplies, services and equipment | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Quick-impact projects | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gross total | 3 346 | 82 204 | 85 549 |
| Staff assessment income | 340 | 993 | 1 333 |
| Net total | 3 006 | 81 210 | 84 216 |

^a The above figures are preliminary and indicative in nature and would be subject to full review by the General Assembly in the context of the budget of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) for the 2008/09 period if the Security Council authorizes the Mission to support the elections.