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Part II

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Section 3

Political affairs

Special political missions

Thematic cluster III: regional offices, offices in support of political processes and other missions

United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

Twenty-fifth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2020

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the proposed resource requirements for 2020 for the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) under the thematic cluster of regional offices, offices in support of political processes and other missions that emanate from the decisions of the Security Council. During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 6 December 2019.

2. The Secretary-General, in addendum 1 to section 3, Political affairs, of his report on the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.1), provides an overview of the proposed resource requirements for 2020 for 37 special political missions and related cross-cutting issues. Detailed information in respect of each special political mission is contained in five addenda to section 3, Political affairs, of



the proposed programme budget.¹ The Advisory Committee's comments and recommendations of a cross-cutting nature pertaining to all special political missions are contained in its main report (A/74/7/Add.1), while the Committee's comments and recommendations on budget proposals for thematic clusters I to III, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq are covered in its related reports.² In addition, the requirements for 2020 for the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) and BINUH (both under thematic cluster III) are presented in separate reports (A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.7 and A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.8). The Committee's comments and recommendations pertaining to the resource requirements for UNMHA and BINUH are contained in its related reports (A/74/7/Add.23 and A/74/7/Add.24).

3. In its first report on the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/7, chap. I, sect. A), the Advisory Committee made comments and recommendations on budget methodology, format and presentation, which also apply to the reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed budgets for special political missions, including BINUH.³ The Committee makes further comments on the format and presentation of the proposed budget for BINUH in paragraphs 10 and 11 below.

4. Upon request, the Advisory Committee was provided with updated versions of the tables contained in the main report of the Secretary-General on special political missions (A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.1), including the proposed resources for 2020 for UNMHA (\$53,613,400) and BINUH (\$20,395,200). **The Advisory Committee notes that the overall resource requirements proposed for special political missions and the overall resource level of the proposed programme budget for 2020 would increase by \$74,008,600 (see A/74/6 (Introduction); see also para. 2 above). The Committee further notes that the overall resources proposed for special political missions for 2020 in the amount of \$717,880,900⁴ would represent an increase of \$6,176,400 (0.9 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2019.**

II. Background and mandate

5. By its resolution 2476 (2019), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) for an initial period of 12 months beginning on 16 October 2019, to succeed the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH), the last of seven peacekeeping operations established in Haiti since 1993, which was closed on 15 October 2019 (see Council resolution 2466 (2019)). The Office has the following key tasks: (a) to advise the Government of Haiti on strengthening political stability and good governance through support for an inclusive inter-Haitian national dialogue; and (b) to assist the Government in, among other things, planning and executing elections, reinforcing the capacity of the Haitian National Police, including through training on human rights, to respond to gang violence, developing an inclusive approach with all segments of society to reduce intercommunal violence, ensuring

¹ A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.2, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.3, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.4, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.5, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.5/Corr.1, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.6 and A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.6/Corr.1.

² A/74/7/Add.2, A/74/7/Add.3, A/74/7/Add.4, A/74/7/Add.5 and A/74/7/Add.6.

³ A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.2, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.3, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.4, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.5, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.5/Corr.1, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.6, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.6/Corr.1, A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.7 and A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.8.

⁴ The Advisory Committee was informed that the provision for the share of special political missions for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, has been updated to \$1,424,400 for 2020 (compared with the amount of \$1,427,100 reflected in A/74/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.1, table 4).

compliance with international human rights obligations, improving prison oversight, and strengthening and reforming the justice sector (resolution [2476 \(2019\)](#), para. 1).

6. The Security Council approved the proposals of the Secretary-General on the composition and operational aspects of the mission (see [S/2019/387](#) and [S/2019/387/Corr.1](#)), which included that it be composed of advisory units with expertise in political and good governance; gang violence, community violence reduction and weapons and munitions management; police and corrections, including up to 30 civilian and seconded personnel to serve as police and corrections advisers under a United Nations police commissioner; human rights; security; mission support; and public information (resolution [2476 \(2019\)](#), para. 2). Furthermore, the Council underscored the need for the activities of BINUH and the United Nations country team in Haiti, which would assume the programmatic and technical assistance role of MINUJUSTH after 15 October 2019, to be fully integrated, and stressed the need for a seamless transition to BINUH to ensure continuity (*ibid.*, para. 5). The Council also underlined the need for BINUH to maintain close and sustained collaboration, coordination and information-sharing between United Nations entities and other local and international partners operating in Haiti in order to prevent duplication of effort and to maximize the leveraging of existing resources (*ibid.*, para. 6).

7. It is indicated in the budget document that an advance team composed of staff members with expertise in each of the five substantive mandated activities of the Office and in support functions was established and deployed to Haiti in August 2019 to undertake planning activities to ensure that the Office would become fully operational on 16 October 2019, including recruitment activities and the search for facilities ([A/74/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.8](#), paras. 33 and 34).

Strategy and external factors for 2020

8. Information on the strategy and external factors for 2020, including planning assumptions, is provided in paragraphs 16–26 of the budget document. It is indicated that BINUH and the United Nations country team will function as an integrated team to provide a comprehensive response that contributes directly to the achievement of the Office's planned results and that enables long-term development. The integrated team will implement an integrated strategic framework and a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy, and will also, among other activities, establish coordination structures aimed at scaling up programmatic efforts of United Nations entities and technical assistance; establish joint thematic teams to assist the Government in addressing the root causes that have led to violence and conflict; focus joint prevention efforts on the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development to overcome fragilities and to address the needs of the population, including economic development and poverty eradication; conduct joint analysis of issues affecting the team's work in Haiti; and establish joint teams to address gang violence, community violence reduction, justice and elections. It is further indicated that technical and programmatic support by the country team in the areas of community violence reduction, disarmament, election security and justice will be delivered with initial funding from the Peacebuilding Fund (see paras. 15 and 18 below).

Resource requirements for 2019

9. It is indicated in the budget document that the estimated expenditure to cover the Office's operations for the period from its inception to 31 December 2019, including the costs of the advance team deployed in mid-August 2019, amount to \$3,592,600 and will be incurred against the \$3.6 million approved by the Secretary-General under the authority granted to him under paragraph 1 (a) of General Assembly resolution [72/264](#) on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2018–2019. It is further indicated that the appropriation for the amount used will be sought

in the context of the second performance report for the biennium 2018–2019. The comments of the Advisory Committee on the use of the commitment authority for 2019 will be provided in its reports on the second performance report for the biennium 2018–2019. Further comments on individual items of expenditure incurred in 2019 can be found, where relevant, in the discussion of the proposed budget for 2020 in the paragraphs below.

III. General remarks

Format and presentation

10. In its first report on the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/7, chap. I, sect. A), the Advisory Committee noted that, following the transition to an annual budget, certain key elements previously contained in the budget fascicles were not included in the proposed programme budget for 2020 or were included only in the accompanying supplementary information (see para. 3 above). For instance, narratives on the post and non-post requirements, key variances between the proposed resource requirements as compared to the previous year and comprehensive information reflecting the totality of the mandated activities and performance measures for each subprogramme were no longer provided, whereas details on deliverables were only available in the supplementary information. In addition, information that had previously been available in the supplementary information, such as the details on vehicle ratios and on information and communications technology equipment, was no longer provided.

11. The Secretary-General's proposals for the resource requirements for BINUH under the proposed programme budget for 2020 are set out in tables 2 and 3 and paragraphs 41–44 of the budget document, and consist mostly of the proposed amounts under the main categories of expenditure. The accompanying supplementary information provides further information on the resource requirements.⁵ The Advisory Committee had to seek further clarification on numerous elements of the budget proposal, some of which is reflected in the paragraphs below, as relevant. **While recognizing the fluid nature of planning and uncertainty during the startup phase of a special political mission, and taking into account also the above-mentioned changes resulting from the transition to the annual programme budget (see para. 10 above), the Advisory Committee nevertheless considers that the 2020 budget proposal for BINUH does not provide adequate justification for the post and non-post resource requirements of the Office in 2020. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide a fully justified proposal on resource requirements as well as on proposed staffing and organizational structures based on operational tasks and planning assumptions, particularly for new missions and offices. The Committee further expects offices and departments at Headquarters, which are provided with dedicated backstopping resources partially for this very purpose, to provide the necessary support and expertise in the preparation of the budgetary proposals.**

⁵ The supplementary information includes: (a) a detailed breakdown of the resource requirements by object of expenditure (table 1); (b) activities and financing arrangements for the period from 16 October to 31 December 2019 (paras. 1.1–1.4); (c) the proposed staffing establishment and justification for individual posts (paras. 1.5–1.129); (d) analysis of resource requirements (paras. 1.130–1.141); and (e) the organizational charts of the substantive and support components of the Office.

Use of existing infrastructure and assets of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti

12. Information on the use of existing MINUJUSTH infrastructure and assets is provided in paragraph 40 of the budget document. It is indicated that: (a) the headquarters of BINUH will be temporarily located in the logistical base that currently serves as the headquarters for MINUJUSTH until an office building is identified; (b) the proposed budget takes into consideration the current inventory of equipment, supplies and spare parts of MINUJUSTH that have been deemed suitable for transfer to the Office; (c) estimated requirements for contractual services are based upon the terms and conditions of existing contracts with MINUJUSTH; and (d) existing commercial contracts available to MINUJUSTH for goods and services that will be required by and suitable to the new mission will be transferred to the Office and scaled down, extended or otherwise modified, as needed. Upon request, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information showing that a total of 307 assets at a net book value of \$830,800 had been transferred from MINUJUSTH to BINUH, including prefabricated buildings, vehicles and information and communications technology, audiovisual, engineering, construction, water treatment, fuel distribution and security equipment (see annex, sect. A). The Committee was informed that discussions were under way regarding any potential additional transfers of serialized items before MINUJUSTH was finally closed. The Committee discusses specific assets in the relevant sections below. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide comprehensive and transparent information on the transferred assets and reimbursement or cost recovery in his next reports on the liquidation of MINUJUSTH, as well as in his next budget submission for BINUH.**

Integration with the United Nations country team

13. In response to its request for further information on the mechanisms by which BINUH would be fully integrated with the United Nations country team, the Advisory Committee was informed that BINUH was implementing a number of measures, as follows: (a) the position of Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General would continue to carry out the roles of Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, ensuring that all parts of the United Nations peace and security, development and humanitarian pillars in the country remained aligned; (b) pending activation of integrated coordination mechanisms, key BINUH and United Nations country team personnel would be co-located, including for staff working on electoral reform, judicial reform and community violence reduction; (c) six staff members from the Development Coordination Office were anticipated to be located within the BINUH premises (see para. 17 below); and (d) the mission headquarters was expected to be transferred from its current location at the former MINUJUSTH logistics base, bringing BINUH in closer proximity to its closest interlocutors in the United Nations country team.

14. With regard to the delivery of programmatic activities, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that a clear division of labour between BINUH and the United Nations country team had been established to maximize the effectiveness of the entire United Nations family and effectively leverage the capacities of BINUH on the basis of comparative advantage. The Committee was further informed that BINUH did not undertake programmatic activities and did not possess any programmatic funding, but rather worked in partnership with the United Nations country team to ensure progress towards joint strategic priorities, and also supported the United Nations country team with strategic advice and coordination to ensure alignment of activities with overall political priorities. With regard to paragraph 1 (b) of Security Council resolution [2476 \(2019\)](#), the Committee was informed that BINUH would

carry out its mandate to assist the Government of Haiti by providing a range of good offices, advocacy and advisory support, and that the above efforts, in line with the Office's strategic, advisory and assistance functions, would not require any programmatic funding. BINUH would work with the United Nations country team to provide strategic advice and coordination in support of the country team's efforts to plan, implement and manage programmatic activities and technical assistance.

15. The Secretariat further indicated that the activities of the United Nations country team included: (a) undertaking programmatic activities and providing technical assistance to national authorities in areas of the BINUH mandate, including electoral reform, judicial reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration/community violence reduction; (b) implementing programmes based on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2017–2021, which is pending review following the creation of BINUH; and (c) implementing projects supported by the Peacebuilding Fund.

16. While taking note of the statement by the Secretariat that BINUH does not undertake programmatic activities and does not possess any programmatic funding, the Advisory Committee observes that the Office will be undertaking a number of operational activities. The Committee considers that in order to ensure the proper functioning of the integrated team in alignment with its mandate, there is a need to establish more precise definitions of what constitutes a programmatic activity and programmatic funding, to specify roles and responsibilities and to better clarify the division of labour between BINUH and the United Nations country team, as well as to formalize the coordination mechanisms between the two entities. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to clarify the above, as well as to establish clearer and agreed definitions in his next budget submission.

Cost-sharing arrangements

17. It is indicated in the accompanying supplementary information that the salary and related costs for the position of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator will be equally shared by BINUH and the Development Coordination Office. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the proposed budget for 2020 for BINUH did not reflect any cost-sharing or cost recovery arrangements related to the co-location of staff members of the United Nations country team or the Development Coordination Office at BINUH premises. Upon enquiry as to the reasons why BINUH could not be co-located with the country team, the Committee was informed that the United Nations country team in Haiti was located in existing offices that did not have the space or capacity to accommodate BINUH, and that no suitable office premises had been identified that offered sufficient space to accommodate both BINUH and the country team. The Committee was further informed that BINUH and the United Nations country team shared office space for specific projects, and that service-level agreements were being established to administer those arrangements. With respect to the six staff members of the Development Coordination Office, the Committee was further informed that the Development Coordination Office was still in the process of setting up its offices, structures and processes and that the recruitment of planned staffing complements for Resident Coordinator offices worldwide, including the Office of the Resident Coordinator in Haiti, was still ongoing. Global policies on cost-sharing have therefore not yet been developed, but the Mission will seek to incorporate any cost-sharing policies into its budgetary planning as soon as possible. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to seek opportunities for co-location and cost-**

sharing with other United Nations system entities and to report on those efforts in his next budget submission.

Peacebuilding Fund

18. Upon request for information on the funding provided by the Peacebuilding Fund to Haiti, the Advisory Committee was informed that: (a) following a request by the Prime Minister of Haiti on 17 January 2019 that Haiti be granted access to this funding to facilitate the transition from MINUJUSTH and to provide financial support for the implementation of programmes aimed at consolidating political and social stability, Haiti was declared eligible for funding from the Peacebuilding Fund for a period of five years following the submission of an eligibility package including five projects;⁶ (b) relevant recipient agencies, funds and programmes and the Resident Coordinator's Office would receive \$8.2 million for the implementation of the five projects, pending final approval; (c) the recipient agencies, funds and programmes would benefit from the political leverage and good offices and advocacy roles of BINUH to ensure the effective and timely implementation of the projects; (d) BINUH would not receive any programmatic funding from the Peacebuilding Fund; (e) all funds would be managed and implemented by the relevant lead agency, with the support of other recipient agencies, funds and programmes; and (f) the Peacebuilding Fund secretariat would ensure overall coordination, oversight and monitoring and evaluation over the implementation of the Peacebuilding Fund projects, in close consultation with national counterparts. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include an update on the use of the Peacebuilding Fund in future budget submissions.**

IV. Proposed budget for 2020

19. In table 2 of the budget document it is indicated that for 2020, the estimated resource requirements for the Office amount to \$20,395,200 (net of staff assessment) and provide for costs relating to: (a) United Nations police costs (\$800,200); (b) civilian personnel costs (\$13,673,700); and (c) operational costs (\$5,921,300). The estimated expenditure for the period from 16 October to 31 December 2019, inclusive of expenditure for the advance team, amounts to \$3,592,600, comprising \$127,400 for United Nations police costs, \$2,868,400 for civilian personnel costs and \$596,800 for operational costs.

A. United Nations police personnel

20. The proposed resources for United Nations police personnel for 2020 amount to \$800,200 to provide for the deployment of 13 United Nations police personnel to support the Police and Corrections Service. It is indicated that a vacancy rate of 3.8 per cent has been applied to the estimated requirements, taking into consideration the ability of the Office to recruit police personnel from personnel currently deployed in MINUJUSTH. **The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposed resources for United Nations police personnel.**

⁶ The projects relate to: (a) prevention of electoral violence (with a focus on women); (b) access to justice; (c) management of arms and ammunition; (d) community violence reduction; and (e) the establishment of a Peacebuilding Fund secretariat within the Resident Coordinator's Office.

B. Civilian personnel

21. The proposed resources for civilian personnel amount to \$13,673,700 to provide for a total of 114 positions (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 D-2, 5 D-1, 8 P-5, 20 P-4, 9 P-3, 1 P-2, 18 Field Service, 2 General Service (Other level), 21 National Professional Officer and 28 Local level) and 2 Government-provided personnel, comprising: (a) \$11,816,200 under international staff to provide for 65 international positions based on a vacancy rate of 12.2 per cent; (b) \$1,729,700 under national staff to provide for 49 national positions, based on vacancy rates of 11.9 per cent and 12.5 per cent for National Professional Officers and Local level staff, respectively; and (c) \$127,800 under Government-provided personnel to provide for the deployment of two such personnel, expected to be recruited by 1 January 2020. It is indicated in the budget document that the proposed vacancy rates are based on the anticipated progress in the recruitment process, which began in mid-August upon deployment of the advance team to Haiti, and also take into consideration the ability of the Office to recruit from ex-MINUJUSTH staff and other staff members from downsizing or closing missions.

22. The Advisory Committee welcomes the inclusion of a total of 21 National Professional Officers in the staffing complement of BINUH. The Committee has frequently called for an expanded use of National Professional Officers in field missions and encourages BINUH to continue to seek opportunities for increasing the proportion of National Professional Officer positions in its staffing complement.

23. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with the below table showing the status of vacancies and recruitment as at 10 November 2019.

United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti: status of vacancies and recruitment as at 10 November 2019

<i>Type of personnel</i>	<i>Current staffing</i>	<i>Proposed staffing</i>	<i>Currently vacant positions</i>	<i>Positions under recruitment</i>	<i>Vacant positions (net of ongoing recruitment)</i>	<i>Vacancy rate (percentage)</i>	<i>Projected vacancy rate in 2020 (percentage)</i>
United Nations police	11	13	2	2	–	–	3.8
International staff	32	65	33	12	21	32.3	12.2
National staff – General Service	23	28	5	1	4	14.3	12.5
National staff – National Professional Officer	17	21	4	1	3	14.3	11.9
Government-provided personnel	2	2	–	–	–	–	–

Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator

24. It is indicated in the supplementary information that one position of Programme Management Officer (P-4) is proposed to be established to support the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General to ensure that BINUH aligns its programmes with the priorities of the Secretary-General for Haiti and that the implementation of the mandate of BINUH in the area of rule of law contributes to the Government's vision for strengthening the foundations towards long-term development and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It is further indicated that the incumbent of the Programme Management Officer (P-4) position will address all issues related to the legacy of the United Nations in Haiti in consultation with the Senior Victims' Rights Officer, the Gender Affairs Officer and the Legal Officer.

25. In response to a request for further information, the Advisory Committee was informed that the focus of the position of Programme Management Officer (P-4) was on linking the different areas of work of BINUH with the work of the United Nations country team, including connecting BINUH efforts in the area of rule of law as well as in the follow-up to the resolution of legacy peacekeeping issues, such as cholera elimination, which remains one of the priorities of the Secretary-General. Upon request for further justification, the Committee was informed that the Programme Management Officer (P-4) in the Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General had the dedicated portfolio of planning and coordinating efforts to combat the spread of cholera in Haiti. Subsequently, the Committee was informed that the focus of the position was on linking the different areas of work of BINUH with the work of the United Nations country team through the Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, in line with the new way of working, including: (a) connecting BINUH efforts in the area of rule of law with development efforts being undertaken by the United Nations country team; and (b) the resolution of legacy peacekeeping issues, such as cholera elimination, which remains one of the priorities of the Secretary-General and which continues to be implemented by the country team and supported politically by BINUH. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide to the General Assembly, at the time of its consideration of the present report, further clarification on the functions of the Programme Management Officer (P-4) position and how they relate to the mandate of BINUH.**

Electoral team

26. It is indicated in the supplementary information that an electoral reform team is proposed to be established under the political affairs and judicial reform pillar, composed of: (a) one position of Senior Electoral Officer/Chief Technical Adviser (P-5) to head the team and play an advisory role for national counterparts on all electoral matters; (b) one position of Electoral Officer/Operations and Planning Adviser (P-4) to serve as a member of an electoral assistance team in an advisory role to national counterparts; and (c) one position of Associate Electoral Officer/Legal Affairs Adviser (National Professional Officer) to advise and contribute to the capacity-building of national counterparts in the Provisional Electoral Council. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the electoral reform component would provide analytical and technical capacity to support the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on electoral matters. The Committee was further informed that in response to the Government's request for electoral assistance, an integrated project had been established with the overall objective of strengthening the institutional capacities of the Provisional Electoral Council, with the United Nations Development Programme as the lead agency for technical support and institutional strengthening. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report further information on the respective roles and responsibilities of BINUH and the United Nations Development Programme on electoral matters.**

Backstopping

27. It is indicated in table 3 of the budget document that a total of four positions (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 2 General Service (Other level)) are proposed for backstopping purposes at Headquarters. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the proposed positions comprised: (a) three backstopping positions for the Haiti team in the Americas Division of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs for a Senior Political Affairs Officer (P-5), a Political Affairs Officer (P-4) and an Administrative Assistant (General Service (Other level)); and (b) one backstopping

position for a Finance and Budget Assistant (General Service (Other level)) in the Field Operations Finance Division of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance. Upon enquiry, the Committee was further informed that a total of five backstopping positions for MINUJUSTH were being funded through the peacekeeping support account and comprised: (a) four backstopping positions in the Americas Division of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs for a Senior Political Affairs Officer (P-5), two Political Affairs Officers (P-4) and an Associate Political Affairs Officer (P-2); and (b) one backstopping position for a Finance and Budget Officer (P-3) in the Field Operations Finance Division of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance. The Committee was further informed that the Division for Special Activities in the Department of Operational Support also provided backstopping services, including coordinated support for the recruitment of all staff for the new mission and the preparation of initial resourcing plans and cost estimates. The Committee trusts that information on specific examples of deliverables for each section and unit of the Division for Special Activities will be provided in the next budget submission.

28. The Advisory Committee recalls that in subsection 29A, Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, of the proposed programme budget for 2020, the Secretary-General indicated that following the implementation of the management reform, a review of the resources from all funding sources allocated to components 2, Field operations finance, and 3, Programme planning and budgeting, of subprogramme 2, Programme planning, finance and budget, of the subsection had been undertaken, and that as a result of redeployments proposed for 2020 between the two components, the staffing resources available to both components remained the same (A/74/6 (Sect. 29A), paras. 29A.94 (a) and 29A.97 (a)). The Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that as of 1 January 2019, the preparation of budget reports for special political missions was transferred to the Field Operations Finance Division from the Programme Planning and Budget Division, as well as responsibility for providing guidance and advice on financial resources and resource management, which had previously been undertaken by the former Department of Field Support.

29. The Advisory Committee notes that following the management reform, functions and resources relating to budget preparation and financial management, including for special political missions, have been redistributed among the relevant departments and offices, involving redeployments of resources in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2020. However, the Committee further notes that there is a need for greater clarity with respect to ongoing functions, workload, related resources and capacity, including posts and positions in the respective offices concerned. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide comprehensive information, with detailed rationale, in the context of his proposed budget for the peacekeeping support account for the period 2020/21 and the proposed programme budget for 2021, including the main report on the special political missions.

30. In view of the foregoing, the Advisory Committee recommends that, at this stage, the General Assembly approve resources for general temporary assistance to provide the functions of the four positions (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 2 General Service (Other level)) proposed for the backstopping of BINUH at Headquarters. The Committee will revert to the question of the continued requirement for the proposed backstopping resources in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for 2021.

31. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposed resources for civilian personnel subject to its recommendation in paragraph 30 above.

C. Operational costs

32. The estimated operational costs for 2020 in the amount of \$5,921,300 comprise consultants and consulting services (\$283,800); official travel (\$355,500); facilities and infrastructure (\$2,707,000); ground transportation (\$426,000); communications and information technology (\$1,596,700); medical (\$276,000); and other supplies, services and equipment (\$276,300).

Consultants and consulting services

33. The proposed resources for consultants and consulting services for 2020 amount to \$283,800. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with details on the proposed consultancies, showing that a significant proportion of the proposed resources would be devoted to the provision of technical support in the areas of human rights methodology, reporting and advocacy. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that insufficient justification has been provided in support of the proposed requirements. The Committee considers that additional efforts should be made to transfer knowledge from external consultants to office staff, especially in areas where the same outside expertise is called upon frequently, and to achieve savings. Accordingly, the Committee recommends a reduction of 5 per cent (\$14,200) in the overall proposed requirement for consultants and consulting services.**

Official travel

34. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional details on the planned trips in 2020 showing that the proposed resources for official travel in 2020 in the amount of \$355,500 comprise: (a) \$101,400 for 282 trips within the mission area; (b) \$188,000 for 48 trips outside of mission area; and (c) \$61,100 for travel for training outside the mission area. The information provided shows that a total of 12 trips outside the mission area are planned for the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, 13 trips are planned for the Police and Corrections Service, and 10 are planned under the support component. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that insufficient information has been provided in support of some of the planned trips and that further efforts can be made to achieve savings, including by maximizing use of alternative methods of communication as well as by improving planning for travel and compliance with the advance purchase policy. Accordingly, the Committee recommends a reduction of 5 per cent (\$9,400) in the overall proposed resources for official travel outside the mission area.**

Ground transportation

35. The proposed resources under ground transportation for 2020 amount to \$426,000 and would provide for the acquisition of one armoured vehicle (\$160,200); repairs and maintenance (\$151,000); liability insurance (\$6,000); spare parts (\$67,000); and petrol, oil and lubricants (\$41,800). Upon request for further justification on the requirement for an armoured vehicle, the Advisory Committee was informed that the four armoured vehicles transferred from MINUJUSTH to BINUH exceeded their economic life cycle in accordance with the established United Nations standards. It had been determined that only one vehicle would be replaced in 2020 to ensure that the minimum security standard is maintained for the Head of Mission.

36. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that a total of 80 vehicles had been transferred from MINUJUSTH to BINUH, comprising 54 light passenger

vehicles, 11 special-purpose vehicles and 15 other special vehicles/trailers. The Committee was provided with a detailed breakdown of the vehicles that had been transferred to BINUH (see annex, sect. B). The Committee was also provided with data on the proposed allocation of vehicles for 2020, showing that, for the total of 129 proposed office personnel and 119 personnel adjusted for the proposed vacancy rate, the projected holdings of 54 vehicles in 2020 would exceed the standard allocation of 31 vehicles by 74.2 per cent. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the Department of Operational Support was aware of the high vehicle ratios in some special political missions and continued to exercise its oversight role of missions' holdings, including by carrying out analytical reviews of vehicle holdings, assessments of effectiveness in vehicle usage and alignment with corporate objectives such as efficiency of fuel consumption. **The Advisory Committee expects the Secretary-General to continue to closely monitor the vehicle holdings with a view to bringing the projected vehicle ratio in closer alignment with the standard allocation rate, and to report on this matter in his next budget submission for BINUH.**

Facilities and infrastructure

37. In the budget document, it is indicated that the Office headquarters will be located in Port-au-Prince and that, during the start-up phase, the headquarters of the Office will be temporarily located in the logistical base that currently serves as the headquarters for MINUJUSTH. The supplementary information shows that the proposed resources for facilities and infrastructure for 2020 amount to \$2,707,000, including requirements for the rental of premises for the Office's headquarters in Port-au-Prince, utilities, maintenance, security services (including guard services and residential security for non-civilian personnel) and fuel for generators, as well as non-recurrent requirements for the refurbishment and a security upgrade of the premises to ensure compliance with minimum operating security standards.

38. For 2019, the estimated expenditures under facilities and infrastructure amount to \$167,100 and provide for the rental of premises (\$43,800), maintenance services (\$55,300), spare parts and supplies (\$12,500) and fuel (\$55,500). The Advisory Committee was informed that in the current location, the maintenance costs of facilities are shared with MINUJUSTH, and that the 2019 budget provisions for facilities and infrastructure are based on the assumption that the BINUH headquarters will stay in the existing location shared with MINUJUSTH until its liquidation by 31 December 2019. Upon enquiry as to whether the Office had reimbursed MINUJUSTH for the costs of the services provided to the advance team and during the start-up phase in 2019, the Committee was informed that only expenses that had clearly been incurred by BINUH, such as staff costs, official travel and costs of staff on temporary duty assignment from other missions and headquarters, had been charged against the approved resources for BINUH for 2019 under the Secretary-General's authority. However, charges not clearly attributable to BINUH had not been reimbursed. **The Advisory Committee considers that a comprehensive accounting of costs incurred by BINUH should be maintained, regardless of their reimbursement to MINUJUSTH, and trusts that the Secretary-General will provide an update on this matter in his next budget submission.**

39. **The Advisory Committee notes that the expected costs of the eventual BINUH headquarters in Port-au-Prince may be considerably higher than those at the current location which also served as the headquarters for MINUJUSTH. The Committee is of the view that the selection of a headquarters for BINUH should be subject to a cost-benefit analysis that allows comparisons between different options, one of which should be to maintain the headquarters in the current premises. The Committee recommends that the General Assembly**

request the Secretary-General to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of different options to support the selection process for the location of headquarters premises for BINUH and to provide full justification for the option selected in his next budget submission.

Communications and information technology

40. The supplementary information indicates that the proposed resources of \$1,596,700 for 2020 would provide for: (a) acquisition of communications and information technology equipment (\$61,300); (b) telecommunications and network services (\$652,600); (c) maintenance of communications and information technology equipment and support services (\$592,600); (d) spare parts (\$30,000); (e) software, licences and fees (\$62,500); and (f) public information and publication services (\$197,700). **The Advisory Committee considers that insufficient information has been provided in support of the proposed requirements and is of the view that further efforts can be made to achieve savings. The Committee recommends that the proposed resources under communications and information technology be reduced by 5 per cent (\$79,800).**

41. **The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposed resources for operational costs subject to its recommendations in paragraphs 33, 34 and 40 above.**

V. Conclusions and recommendations

42. The action requested of the General Assembly is set out in paragraph 46 of the budget document. **Subject to its comments and recommendations in the paragraphs above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly:**

(a) **Approve the budget for the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti for 2020 amounting to \$20,291,800 (net of staff assessment);**

(b) **Appropriate, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213, an amount of \$20,291,800 (net of staff assessment) under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for 2020;**

(c) **Appropriate an amount of \$1,592,900 under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for 2020.**

Annex**A. Assets transferred from the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti to the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti**

(In United States dollars)

<i>Asset description</i>	<i>Number of assets</i>	<i>Net book value</i>
Prefabricated building	135	46 158.99
Light/heavy weight vehicle	65	141 409.65
Special vehicles, trailers and attachments	15	326 636.13
Computers, information technology network, store equipment	55	4 500.00
Communications and communications network equipment	4	66 834.37
Audiovisual equipment	1	8 635.78
Heavy engineering and construction equipment	17	185 634.04
Water treatment and fuel distribution equipment	11	18 080.84
Security equipment	4	32 878.88
Total	307	830 768.68

B. Vehicles transferred from the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti to the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

<i>Type of vehicle</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Light passenger vehicles	
General purpose, heavy, Nissan Patrol, 4x4	36
General purpose, medium, Toyota Prado, 4x4	14
Utility, heavy, Toyota Land Cruiser, 4x4	3
Bus: minibus up to 15 passengers, Toyota HiAce	1
Subtotal	54
Special purpose vehicles	
Truck: water, medium, Renault Kerax, 4x4	1
Truck: tractor, Renault Kerax, 6x6	1
Truck: sewage, medium, Renault Kerax	1
Truck: heavy, Renault Kerax, 6x6	3
Truck: fuel, heavy, Renault, 6x6	2
Truck: fire, Renault Kerax, medium, 4x2	1
Truck: cargo, heavy, Renault Kerax, 6x4	1
Bus: over 15 passengers, Nissan, civilian	1
Subtotal	11

<i>Type of vehicle</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
Other special vehicles/trailers	
Ambulance: Ford F-450 XLT, 4x4	1
Armoured, Toyota Land Cruiser, 4x4	4
Forklift	7
Trailer: cargo	1
Airfield refueler truck, Renault Kerax	2
Subtotal	15
Total	80
