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Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Yaron **Wax** (Israel)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2019, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. During the second part of the resumed seventy-fourth session, the Fifth Committee met online owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, during which it considered the item.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 (A/74/626);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 (A/74/745);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/74/737/Add.11).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/74/L.45

4. On 24 June 2020, the Chair of the Committee submitted for consideration under silence procedure, in accordance with General Assembly decisions 74/544 and 74/555, a draft resolution entitled “Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali” (A/C.5/74/L.45), submitted on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Israel and Rapporteur of the Committee.

5. On 27 June, the Committee considered draft resolution A/C.5/74/L.45 adopted, in accordance with the process set out in decisions 74/544 and 74/555 (see para. 6). It also noted that it would take note of the resolution at its next meeting held after the cessation of the precautionary measures as soon as the circumstances allowed.

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 2100 (2013) of 25 April 2013, by which the Council established the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali as from 25 April 2013 and decided that authority would be transferred from the African-led International Support Mission in Mali to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali on 1 July 2013 for an initial period of 12 months, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 2480 (2019) of 28 June 2019, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 30 June 2020,

Recalling also its resolution 67/286 of 28 June 2013 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 73/320 of 3 July 2019, as well as its decision 73/555 of 3 July 2019,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of its resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006, 61/276 of 29 June 2007, 64/269 of 24 June 2010, 65/289 of 30 June 2011, 66/264 of 21 June 2012, 69/307 of 25 June 2015 and 70/286 of 17 June 2016, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali as at 30 April 2020, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 194.5 million United States dollars, representing some 2.8 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only 105 Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

[1] A/74/626 and A/74/745.

[2] A/74/737/Add.11.

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that proposed peacekeeping budgets are based on the relevant legislative mandates;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish clear frameworks and guidelines to determine the solicitation procedure, whether invitation to bid or request for proposal, to be utilized for, inter alia, acquiring different types of goods and services, including aviation services, and to update the United Nations Procurement Manual accordingly;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take measures to ensure that the Organization conforms to best practices in public procurement with respect to transparency, including by placing additional information in the public domain on the outcome of procurement exercises conducted, including in the area of aviation services, so as to further increase the transparency of the procurement operations of the Organization, and to update the United Nations Procurement Manual accordingly;

11. *Notes* the ongoing development of impact-based performance indicators as part of the implementation of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment System, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General in his next report to provide information on how the indicators will measure the performance by the Mission of mandated tasks and the impact of resource allocation on that performance, as well as how the indicators will contribute to the identification of the required resources for each mandated task;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide in his next report an execution plan for, and analysis of, the implementation of the new Comprehensive Performance Assessment System, including on its correlation with mission planning and budget formulation, in order to facilitate consideration by the General Assembly of resource requests for implementation of the System;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the accountability system of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen risk management and internal controls in the management of peacekeeping budgets, in order to facilitate mandate implementation and increase transparency, and to report thereon in his next report;

14. *Also emphasizes* the importance of overall budgetary performance in peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the recommendations of the relevant oversight bodies, while giving due regard to the guidance and recommendations of the General Assembly, and to report thereon in the context of the performance reports;

15. *Notes with grave concern* the threat to life, health, safety and security caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the importance of ensuring the safety, security and health of peacekeeping personnel, maintaining the continuity of critical mandate delivery, including protection of civilians, minimizing the risk of mission activities causing the virus to spread and, where appropriate and within mandates, supporting national authorities, upon their request, in their response to COVID-19, in collaboration with the Resident Coordinator and other United Nations entities in the country, and requests the Secretary-General to indicate in his next performance report how the Mission responded;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next performance report information on how the Mission has responded and on lessons learned from past and present epidemics and pandemics, and to propose options for improving future preparedness for epidemics and pandemics, including for business continuity;

17. *Notes* the progress made in the implementation of the multi-year environmental strategy to reduce the footprint of peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to enhance measures for the implementation of the strategy in all peacekeeping missions, in line with the five pillars of the strategy, in accordance with particular conditions on the ground and in full compliance with the relevant rules and regulations, and to report thereon in the context of his next overview report;

18. *Underlines* the important contribution that programmatic activities make to the implementation of the mandates of the Mission, including for the prevention and resolution of conflicts, and that all such activities must be directly linked to the mandates of the Mission;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mission is responsible and accountable for the use of its programmatic funds, in line with relevant guidance and bearing in mind the specific context in which the Mission operates, and to include, in his next budget submission and performance report, detailed information on the programmatic activities of the Mission, including on how those activities have contributed to the implementation of mission mandates, on the linkage to the mandates, on the implementing entities and on the performance by the Mission of appropriate oversight;

20. *Expresses concern* over the allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse reported in peacekeeping missions, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the United Nations zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse with regard to all civilian, military and police personnel, and to report thereon in the context of his next report on cross-cutting issues;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations peacekeeping mission staff has the capacity to provide technical oversight of the use of unmanned aerial and aircraft systems technologies;

22. *Recognizes* the increasing security challenges faced by United Nations peacekeepers, reaffirms its commitment to the improvement of the safety and security of Mission personnel, in particular uniformed personnel, and requests the Secretary-General to further strengthen the measures in this regard and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the next budget submission for the Mission;

23. *Reaffirms* the provisions of section XVIII of its resolution 61/276, further recognizes the important role played by quick-impact projects in supporting the implementation of mission mandates, stresses the need for the timely, responsible and accountable implementation of all such projects, and requests the Secretary-General to enhance their impact while addressing underlying challenges;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider options for greater nationalization of functions when formulating budget submissions, commensurate with mission mandates and requirements;

25. *Reiterates its concern* about the high number of vacancies in civilian staffing, and further reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that vacant posts are filled expeditiously;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that vacant posts are filled expeditiously, and decides not to abolish the posts that have been vacant for 24 months or longer during the current budget period, except for those in paragraph 27;

27. *Decides* to abolish one post of Field Language Assistant and one post of Security Assistant;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the posts that have been vacant for 24 months or longer and to propose in his next budget submission either their retention, with a clear justification of need, or their abolishment;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a comparative assessment of the services provided by respective entities for mine action activities and to provide the results in the context of his next report;

30. *Recognizes* the important role played by regional and subregional actors for peacekeeping operations, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to deepen the partnership, cooperation and coordination of the United Nations with regional and subregional actors, in accordance with relevant mandates, and to provide information on such deepened engagement in the context of his next report;

31. *Notes* that elections are a key milestone in peace processes, stresses the crucial importance of providing adequate and timely support for electoral processes in the host countries of peacekeeping missions, in accordance with the mandate, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include an update on United Nations support for electoral activities in the context of his next overview report;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266, 61/276, 64/269, 65/289, 66/264, 69/307 and 70/286;

33. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all action necessary to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

34. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019;[3]

35. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali the amount of 30,948,100 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, previously authorized by the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 under the terms of section VI of its resolution 64/269, in addition to the amount of

[3] A/74/626.

1,074,718,900 dollars previously approved for the same period under the terms of its resolution 72/297 of 5 July 2018, as well as its decision 72/558 of 5 July 2018;

Financing of the additional appropriation for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

36. *Decides*, taking into account the amount of 1,074,718,900 dollars previously apportioned under the terms of its resolution 72/297 and its decision 72/558 for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 30,948,100 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission for the same period, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolutions 70/246 of 23 December 2015 and 73/272 of 22 December 2018, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2018, as set out in its resolution 70/245 of 23 December 2015, and for 2019, as set out in its resolution 73/271 of 22 December 2018;

37. *Also decides* that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 36 above, the amount of 24,542,500 dollars, representing other revenue in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2019;

38. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 36 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 1,779,400 dollars, representing the additional staff assessment income for the Mission in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2019;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

39. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account the amount of 1,270,104,400 dollars for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, inclusive of 1,183,384,700 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 67,643,400 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, 11,402,400 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and 7,673,900 dollars for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

40. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 1,270,104,400 dollars for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, at a monthly rate of 105,842,033 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 73/272, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2020 and 2021, as set out in its resolution 73/271, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

41. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 40 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 24,715,200 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 17,365,300 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 5,436,500 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account, the prorated share of 1,110,400 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base and the prorated share of 803,000 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Regional Service Centre;

42. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel participating in the Mission under

the auspices of the United Nations, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

43. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

44. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali".