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Programme budget for 2024

Part II Political affairs

Section 3 Political affairs

**Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for 2024 under section 3,
Political affairs, and section 36, Staff assessment**

Special political missions

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

United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan

**Forty-fifth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions on the programme budget for 2024**

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions considered an advance version of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates relating to the programme budget for 2024 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 36, Staff assessment, for the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan (UNITAMS) ([A/78/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.8](#)). During its consideration of the report, the Committee received additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses dated 27 February 2024.

2. The report of the Secretary-General contains the proposed revised budget for 2024 for the transition, drawdown and liquidation of UNITAMS for the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. It is indicated in the report that the proposed financial and human resources supersede those proposed in the report of the Secretary-General in respect of special political missions, thematic cluster III: regional offices, offices in support of political processes and other missions ([A/78/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.4](#)), which the Advisory Committee addressed in its related report ([A/78/7/Add.4](#)).



Mandate and background

3. The mandate of UNITAMS was outlined in Security Council resolutions [2524 \(2020\)](#), [2579 \(2021\)](#) and [2636 \(2022\)](#). The mandate was terminated by resolution [2715 \(2023\)](#).

4. As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General, following the eruption of armed conflict in Khartoum on 15 April 2023, the fighting spread throughout the country. UNITAMS supported efforts to end the conflict and return to an inclusive political transition process, engaging with stakeholders in Darfur and the Two Areas, as well as with representatives of Sudanese civilian-led initiatives, undertaking numerous virtual consultations with women's groups, and working in cooperation with the African Union and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development. UNITAMS subsequently established a temporary office in Nairobi, relocating the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. At the same time, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator led operations from Port Sudan supported by a limited number of staff. In addition, a small liaison team was hosted by the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa in Addis Ababa. Meanwhile, in the Sudan, national staff continued to perform critical functions, including assisting human rights monitoring and engagement with Sudanese interlocutors to help advance peace efforts.

5. On 1 December 2023, the Security Council adopted resolution [2715 \(2023\)](#) and terminated the mandate of UNITAMS effective 3 December 2023. In the resolution, the Council requested the Mission to immediately start on 4 December the cessation of its operations and the process of the transfer of its tasks, where appropriate and to the extent feasible, to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, for completion by 29 February 2024. The Council further decided that the liquidation of UNITAMS should commence on 1 March 2024 and called upon the Mission to establish with the United Nations country team the requisite financial arrangements enabling the United Nations to oversee the residual activities of programmatic cooperation previously initiated by UNITAMS, as appropriate.

Drawdown and transition

6. As detailed in paragraphs 19 to 31 of the report of the Secretary-General, UNITAMS initiated drawdown and transition planning in coordination with the Resident Coordinator's Office and the United Nations country team to identify tasks and knowledge that can be transferred from UNITAMS to relevant agencies and other partners. The transition process would also provide an opportunity for the United Nations to safeguard the work done jointly as an integrated United Nations presence in the Sudan for the past three years with regard to human rights, the protection of civilians, peacebuilding and other programmatic activities. During the drawdown period in January and February 2024, UNITAMS would undertake extensive consultations with the country team and with other relevant national and international partners, and also conducted bilateral consultations, while continuing to provide situational awareness and early warning in support of the transition process, fulfilling the 90-day reporting requirement to the Security Council and ensuring an orderly withdrawal from the Sudan. Furthermore, UNITAMS would ensure the transfer of tasks, data, resources and capacities relating to human rights, child protection and conflict-related sexual violence to relevant United Nations system entities, in line with existing policies. UNITAMS would prioritize the archiving of its records in accordance with the established archiving and record management procedures. **The Advisory Committee notes the challenging environment in which UNITAMS has operated and trusts that all efforts are being made to ensure that the drawdown,**

the transition of activities to the country team, and to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as the preparation for the liquidation, will proceed in an effective and efficient manner.

Liquidation activities from 1 March to 31 December 2024

7. As further detailed in paragraphs 32 to 42 of the report of the Secretary-General, major liquidation activities from 1 March to 31 August 2024 will include the disposal of assets in line with the provisions of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations; the completion of environmental clean-up and restoration, where possible; the transfer and/or disposal of archived paper records; and the completion of transactional activities that include, but are not limited to, the close-out of contracts, the reconciliation and closure of financial records, as well as the settlement of legal and administrative cases as may be applicable. UNITAMS has established service-level agreements with the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, with progress to be monitored through weekly meetings. The UNITAMS liquidation team would be headed by the current Head of Entity, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator (Assistant Secretary-General) from 1 March to 31 May 2024, with the post to be funded at 50 per cent and cost-shared with the Development Coordination Office, in line with the established arrangement for similar triple-hatted posts. The Chief of Mission Support (D-1) would take over as head of the liquidation team from 1 June to 31 August 2024. The UNITAMS liquidation team would be progressively reduced through the abolishment of posts along with the closure of office locations, namely, the closure of the office in Port Sudan by 31 May 2024 and of the office in Nairobi by 31 August 2024, which would mark the end of UNITAMS field-based liquidation activities (see also paras. 18–21 below).

8. Residual liquidation activities would be completed jointly by a smaller-sized liquidation team in collaboration with the United Nations Logistics Base, and include asset reconciliation, the completion of derecognition and deactivation of property records, the preparation of inputs for the final disposition of assets and the completion of environmental monitoring and reporting, as well as the processing of outstanding transactions in the areas of financial and human resources management. The Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance would coordinate the preparation and submission of financial and budget performance reporting after the closure of the 2024 financial period, in early 2025.

9. Regarding the handling of the liquidation of UNITAMS digital presence and legacy, the Advisory Committee was informed that websites of closed missions are maintained by the Office of Information and Communications Technology on the servers as public records, whereby a standard web information box is embedded in all pages, indicating that the website is no longer being updated, without a related cost implication. Regarding social media accounts, the Committee was informed that messages would indicate that no updates would be posted, directing users to other sources of information, and that the accounts would be kept for a certain time period in order to avoid the reuse of the profile name by external actors.

Disposition of assets

10. As described in paragraphs 29 and 30 of the report of the Secretary-General, the outbreak of the war gave rise to the reported looting and vandalization of the Mission's property, plant and equipment in Khartoum, Nyala, El Geneina and Zalingei. To a large extent, the disposal method for these items will be to write them off as loss due to hostile action and hand over the sites to the owners in "as is" condition. Regarding the locations where the equipment may presumably still be intact, UNITAMS is drawing up a preliminary asset disposal plan in coordination with

the United Nations Logistics Base and the Department of Operational Support. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that UNITAMS staff were evacuated from Khartoum, Nyala, Zalingei, El Geneina, El Fasher and Ed Daein, and that access to those locations remains impossible for asset retrieval. The Committee was also informed that the acquisition value of UNITAMS assets amounted to \$14,853,960, with the residual value of these assets estimated at \$977,032. Of this amount, assets with valued at \$6,677 would be accessible for verification and retrieval, as indicated in table 1.

Table 1
List of mission assets

(United States dollars)

<i>No.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Acquisition value</i>	<i>Net book/ residual value</i>	<i>Looting reported</i>	<i>Accessibility of location</i>	<i>Type of assets</i>
1	Zalingei	16	281 571.97	4 535.58	Yes	No	Generators, vehicles, office equipment
2	Nyala	27	182 130.41	5 259.80	Yes	No	Generators, vehicles, office equipment, information technology equipment
3	Khartoum	1 240	9 669 574.53	4 120 015	Yes	No	Generators, vehicles, office and information technology equipment, inventory of wide range of assets, prefabricated buildings
4	El Geneina	15	359 036.63	19 415.31	Yes	No	Generators, vehicles, office and information technology equipment
5	El Fasher	228	2 952 760.83	492 980.62	No	No	Vehicles, generators, information technology equipment, air conditioners, prefabricated buildings, sea container, fuel storage hard tank, identification document printers, printers, laptops
6	Ed Daein	2	43 151.39	2 762.50	No	No	Vehicles
7	Port Sudan	59	1 245 767.44	441 279.99	No	No	Vehicles, generators, information technology equipment, air conditioners, prefabricated buildings, sea container, fuel storage, identification document printers
8	Kadugli	4	95 919.8	6 677.28	No	Yes	Vehicles and a printer
9	El Damazin	1	24 046.01	0	No	Yes	One vehicle currently in process of transfer to United Nations agency
10	Kassala	0	0	0	No	Yes	All assets were transferred to Port Sudan
11	Kauda	0	0	0	No	No	The office had not yet been established at the time of the breakout of conflict in the Sudan

11. The Advisory Committee considers that 99.3 per cent of UNITAMS assets cannot be verified or retrieved and that the related environmental clean-up cannot be completed owing to the situation on the ground, and that only 0.7 per cent of assets, with a residual value of \$6,677, appear to be available for an orderly disposition. The Committee stresses, in view of the expected limited related liquidation activities, the need for every effort to be made to ensure the efficient management of the resources under the present budget and to significantly limit the expenditures under all categories (see paras. 21, 24 and 26 below). Furthermore, the Committee trusts that every effort will be made to ensure that any possible asset disposal process will proceed in a timely manner and according to the relevant guidelines and policies.

Lessons learned

12. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that UNITAMS is applying lessons learned from the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH), the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), including with respect to: (a) enhanced human resources expertise and surge capacity from the Department of Operational Support to support the required staff during the phased drawdown process, in full compliance with [ST/AI/2023/1](#) (see para. 28 below); (b) the establishment of a staff management group process for efficient and swift actions relating to staff separations; (c) the physical review and recording of equipment and asset levels and their usage rates; (d) making asset management one of the core tasks of senior leadership and mainstreaming asset disposal as part of their core activities during the sustainment phase; and (e) ensuring ongoing planning on transitions throughout a mission's life cycle, based on commonly agreed priorities. **The Advisory Committee welcomes that UNITAMS will apply lessons learned and looks forward to further information thereon in the context of future reports on UNITAMS, as applicable.**

II. Revised resource requirements and expenditures

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of expenditure	2022		2023		2024	
	Appropriation	Expenditure	Appropriation	Expenditure ^a	Revised requirements	Variance
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)=(5)-(3)
Military and police personnel costs	1 900.5	1 483.5	2 035.1	1 723.6	52.2	(1 982.9)
Civilian personnel costs	27 601.4	30 785.2	38 355.3	41 293.0	20 145.6	(18 209.7)
Operational costs	26 817.7	24 380.3	25 737.6	19 183.1	2 183.1	(23 554.5)
Total (net of staff assessment)	56 319.6	56 649.0	66 128.0	62 199.7	22 380.9	(43 747.1)

^a All 2023 expenditure figures are preliminary and subject to adjustments during the finalization of the financial statement.

13. The proposed resource requirements for 2024 for UNITAMS amount to \$22,380,900 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for: (a) mission subsistence allowance for the remaining six military observers (\$52,200) until abolishment on 29 February 2024; (b) staff salaries and common staff costs (\$20,145,600) for the gradual separation of 246 civilian personnel encumbered as at 15 January 2024, consisting of 128 international posts (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 2 D-2, 4 D-1, 15 P-5, 25 P-4, 24 P-3, 2 P-2, 54 Field Service and 1 General Service); 113 national posts (34 National Professional Officer and 79 Local level); and 5 United Nations Volunteers (4 international and 1 national), but no funding for 110 vacant posts; (c) three general temporary assistant positions (1 P-3 and 2 General Service) in the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe; and (d) operational costs (\$2,183,100) (see section II.C below). **The Advisory Committee notes that the revised requirements pertain primarily to civilian personnel (90 per cent) and operational costs (9.6 per cent).**

14. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with the projected expenditure for UNITAMS for 2024, as shown in table 2.

Table 2
Expenditure projection, 1 January to 31 December 2024

(Thousands of United States dollars, rounded)

Category	Commitment authority (pursuant to General Assembly resolution 78/253, sect. XVII, para. 4)	Expenditure as at 31 January 2024	Projection 1 February– 31 December 2024	Total requirements
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	450.9	46.9	–	52.7
United Nations police	699.4	5.8	–	–
Subtotal	1 150.3	52.7	–	52.7
Civilian personnel				
International staff	10 866.9	2 283.8	13 748.7	16 032.5
National Professional Officer	803.7	293.4	1 755.4	2 048.8
National General Service staff	572.5	225.9	1 401.3	1 627.2
United Nations Volunteers	168.6	–	191.5	191.5
General temporary assistance	46.9	18.9	241.4	260.3
Subtotal	12 411.7	2 822.0	17 338.3	20 160.2
Operational costs				
Official travel	876.3	227.7	391.0	618.7
Facilities and infrastructure	2 629.5	87.9	310.1	398.0
Ground transportation	516.0	–	49.4	49.4
Communications and information technology	926.5	73.4	306.0	379.4
Medical	607.7	0.1	176.9	177.0
Other supplies, services and equipment	2 382.0	9.6	535.9	545.5
Subtotal	7 938.0	398.7	1 769.3	2 168.1
Net requirements (net of staff assessment)	21 500.0	3 273.4	19 107.6	22 381.0

15. As indicated in table 2, the General Assembly, in its resolution 78/253, section XVII, paragraph 4, authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 21,500,000 dollars for UNITAMS for the period from 1 January to 30 April 2024. As indicated in paragraph 48 (a) of the report of the Secretary-General, the proposed resources for the drawdown, transition and liquidation of UNITAMS would supersede the commitment authority approved by the Assembly in the aforementioned resolution. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the Assembly, in its resolution 78/254 C, paragraph 2, approved the commitment authority with assessment, deciding that “there shall be added an amount of 21,500,000 dollars, representing the commitment authority relating to special political missions approved by the General Assembly in section XVII of its resolution 78/253, resulting in a total amount to be assessed of 3,465,610,500 dollars.” **The Advisory Committee considers that the difference between the aforementioned commitment authority of \$21,500,000 and the proposed revised requirements of \$22,380,900 amounts to only \$880,900.**

Unliquidated obligations

16. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that as at 31 December 2023, the balance pertaining to unliquidated obligations was \$5.8 million, of which \$4.1 million was related to the compensation for loss of personal effects of staff members and \$426,600 was obligated to provide resources for staff members who wished to avail themselves of agreed termination by 31 December 2023. In addition, an estimated amount of \$300,000 for information and communication technology services from service providers was expected, with invoices yet to be received. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the unliquidated obligations pertaining to UNITAMS will be settled expeditiously, by 31 December 2024.**

A. Military and police personnel

17. The proposed revised requirements for military and police personnel for the deployment of six military observers until 29 February 2024 amount to \$52,200, representing a decrease of \$1,982,900 compared with the appropriation of \$2,035,100 in 2023 ([A/78/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.8](#), table 2). It is indicated that the estimates for military observers and United Nations police personnel reflect their actual incumbency as at 15 January 2024 and the planned separation by 29 February 2024. No provision for United Nations police officers has been included, as all the deployed officers have been repatriated.

B. Civilian personnel

Table 3
Human resources

	International staff											National staff			United Nations Volunteers			Total
	USG	ASG	D-2	D-1	P-5	P-4	P-3	P-2	FS	GS ^a	Subtotal	NPO	LL	Subtotal	International	National	Subtotal	
Approved 2023	1	1 ^b	2	5	21	40	37	2	68	1	178	57	109	166	7	5	12	356
Proposed abolishment on 29 February 2024	(1)	–	(2)	(4)	(19)	(33)	(34)	(2)	(41)	(1)	(137)	(53)	(89)	(142)	(7)	(5)	(12)	(291)
Proposed abolishment on 31 May 2024	–	(1)	–	–	–	(1)	–	–	(15)	–	(17)	(1)	(12)	(13)	–	–	–	(30)
Proposed abolishment on 31 August 2024	–	–	–	(1)	(2)	(5)	(3)	–	(12)	–	(23)	(3)	(8)	(11)	–	–	–	(34)
Proposed abolishment on 31 December 2024	–	–	–	–	–	(1)	–	–	–	–	(1)	–	–	–	–	–	–	(1)
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; FS, Field Service; GS, General Service (Other level); LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

^a Other level, unless otherwise specified.

^b Position funded at 50 per cent and cost-shared with the Development Coordination Office.

18. The proposed staffing changes for 2024 are detailed in paragraph 44 of the report of the Secretary-General and are summarized below:

(a) Abolishment, effective 29 February 2024 of 291 positions (1 Under-Secretary-General, 2 D-2, 4 D-1, 19 P-5, 33 P-4, 34 P-3, 2 P-2, 41 Field Service, 1 General Service, 53 National Professional Officer, 89 Local level and 12 United Nations Volunteers), of which 181 positions were encumbered and 110 positions were vacant as at 15 January 2024. UNITAMS would separate all substantive civilian personnel and repatriate all uniformed personnel by 29 February 2024;

(b) Retention of a liquidation team¹ of the remaining 65 positions, to be gradually separated, as follows:

(i) Until 31 May 2024: retention of 30 positions (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 P-4, 15 Field Service, 1 National Professional Officer, 12 Local level). Supporting the Head of Entity will be a liquidation team in Port Sudan consisting of a Special Assistant for Political Affairs (P-4), an Administrative Assistant (Field Service), and 12 Close Protection Officers (Field Service), while the mission support component will maintain 15 personnel in transport, movement control, property management, engineering and security (2 Field Service, 1 National Professional Officer and 12 Local level) to provide assistance for the closure and disposal of assets in Port Sudan;

(ii) Until 31 August 2024: retention of 34 positions (1 D-1, 2 P-5, 5 P-4, 3 P-3, 12 Field Service, 3 National Professional Officer, 8 Local level) for field-based liquidation functions;

(iii) Until 31 December 2024: retention of one backstopping post (P-4) in the Field Operations Finance Division in the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance to perform residual activities in terms of financial and budget performance reporting for the legislative bodies.

19. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, until 31 August 2024, 18 positions would be located in Nairobi and 16 positions in Port Sudan, as shown in table 4.

Table 4
Liquidation team locations and staffing until 31 August 2024

<i>Functional level</i>	<i>Port Sudan</i>	<i>Nairobi</i>	<i>Total positions until 31 August 2024</i>
D-1	—	1 Chief of Mission Support	1
P-5	1 Chief, Supply Chain Management and Service Delivery	1 Chief of Operations and Resource Management	2
P-4	1 Chief of Unit, Information Systems	1 Administrative Officer 1 Chief Finance and Budget Officer 1 Chief of Unit, Movement and Control 1 Legal Officer	5
P-3	1 Medical Officer	1 Security Coordination Officer 1 Conduct and Discipline Officer	3

¹ The organizational chart showing the proposed staffing of the liquidation team is presented in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General.

<i>Functional level</i>	<i>Port Sudan</i>	<i>Nairobi</i>	<i>Total positions until 31 August 2024</i>
Field Service	1 Movement Control Assistant	1 Chief Property Management Officer 1 Finance and Budget Assistant 1 Administrative Assistant 1 Telecommunications Officer 1 Human Resources Officer 1 Human Resources Assistant 1 Warehouse Assistant 3 Security Officers	11
Local level	2 Property Management Assistants 1 Finance and Budget Assistant 1 Information Technology Assistant 2 Human Resources Assistants 1 Facilities Management Assistant 1 Procurement Assistant 1 Requisitions Assistant		9
National Professional Officer	1 Human Resources Officer 1 Assistant Air Operations Officer 1 Protocol Officer		3
Total positions until 31 August 2024		16	18
			34

20. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the United Nations Logistics Base would provide support in the areas of property management, sales orders (processing related to surplus assets and equipment), inventory reconciliation, case handling for looted assets, equipment movement reports, the closing of fiscal year 2024, the asset disposal process, disposal documentation and reporting. The Committee was also informed that in connection with the support to be provided by the Logistics Base during the liquidation phase, related requirements were included in the proposed revised budget for individual contractual services (\$56,000), and for one staff member of the Logistics Base to be located at Port Sudan for three months under a temporary duty assignment arrangement (\$50,000).

21. In view of the significant support to be provided by both the United Nations Logistics Base and the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe through service level-agreements (see para. 7 above), the Advisory Committee is not convinced that there is an operational need to retain a large liquidation team with 18 positions in Nairobi until 31 August 2024, considering that a team with 16 positions will be located concurrently in Port Sudan and will also be tasked with a number of duplicative functions pertaining to human resources, finance, administration, information and communications, and property and facilities management. Therefore, the Committee expects that the staffing of the liquidation team in Nairobi will be reduced and trusts that an update will be provided to the General Assembly during the consideration of the present report.

Common staff costs and separation costs

22. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee received a breakdown of the proposed resources under common staff costs, as shown in table 5.

Table 5
Common staff costs, including separation costs for civilian staff, by category
 (United States dollars)

<i>Entitlements</i>	<i>International</i>	<i>National Professional Officer</i>	<i>Local level</i>	<i>General temporary assistance</i>	<i>Total</i>
Termination indemnity	4 851 717	965 535	715 044	33 414	6 565 710
Repatriation grant	1 700 648	—	—	—	1 700 648
Compensation in lieu of notice	835 917	—	—	—	835 917
Commutation of accrued annual leave	1 157 804	373 808	278 398	31 750	1 841 759
Common staff costs (excluding separation costs)	3 049 731	150 020	142 310	68 300	3 410 361
Total	11 595 817	1 489 363	1 135 752	133 464	14 354 396

23. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, under common staff costs, the following entitlements were included:

(a) For international staff: termination indemnity, repatriation grant, compensation in lieu of notice and commutation of accrued annual leave;

(b) For national staff: termination indemnity and commutation of accrued annual leave.

24. **The Advisory Committee considers that the common staff costs for all categories of staff amount to \$14,354,396, representing 64 per cent of the total proposed revised requirements in the amount of \$22,380,900. The Committee trusts that every effort will be made to implement savings, including the separation of staff prior to the proposed envisaged retention time periods of 31 May and 31 August 2024.**

C. Operational costs

Table 6
Operational costs
 (Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>No.</i>	<i>Category of expenditure</i>	<i>2022</i>		<i>2023</i>		<i>2024</i>	
		<i>Appropriation</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Appropriation</i>	<i>Expenditure^a</i>	<i>Requirements</i>	<i>Variance</i>
		<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)=(5)-(3)</i>
1.	Experts	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Consultants and consulting services	88.8	155.0	210.9	53.5	—	(210.9)
3.	Official travel	624.6	633.9	876.3	1 783.5	619.4	(256.9)
4.	Facilities and infrastructure	3 750.6	3 542.8	3 279.5	3 132.9	398.0	(2 881.5)
5.	Ground transportation	495.3	1 971.2	1 327.2	277.5	49.4	(1 277.8)
6.	Air operations	12 476.8	9 147.7	10 320.0	5 412.6	—	(10 320.0)
7.	Marine operations	—	11.9	—	—	—	—
8.	Communications and information technology	3 246.9	3 561.4	3 168.2	1 072.5	379.3	(2 788.9)
9.	Medical	554.9	127.8	868.1	78.1	177.0	(691.1)
10.	Special equipment	—	—	—	—	—	—

No.	Category of expenditure	2022		2023		2024	
		Appropriation	Expenditure	Appropriation	Expenditure ^a	Requirements	Variance
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)=(5)-(3)
11.	Other supplies, services and equipment	5 579.8	5 228.5	5 687.4	7 372.4	560.0	(5 127.4)
12.	Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		26 817.7	24 368.3	25 737.6	19 183.1	2 183.1	(23 554.5)

^a All 2023 expenditure figures are preliminary and subject to adjustments during the finalization of the financial statement.

25. The proposed revised resource requirements for operational costs for 2024 amount to \$2,183,100, reflecting a decrease of \$23,554,500, or 90.7 per cent, compared with the appropriation for 2023 in the amount of \$25,737,600.

26. **The Advisory Committee considers that following the start of armed conflict on 15 April 2023, UNITAMS operations and the ability to fulfil its mandate effectively ceased, and that presently, most locations in the Sudan are inaccessible for the purposes of mission activities or for the verification and retrieval of any assets that may not have been looted or destroyed. The Committee is therefore not convinced that the totality of resources would be required during the final months of UNITAMS, in particular under official travel (\$619,400), facilities and infrastructure (\$398,000), communications and information technology (\$379,300), and other supplies, services and equipment (\$560,000). The Committee considers that further efficiencies are therefore operationally possible and recommends a reduction of 10 per cent (\$218,300) to the proposed resources under operational costs.**

Demining action

27. An amount of \$138,800 under other supplies and services is requested to support mine detection services during the transition period until 29 February 2024. No funding for mine action is requested thereafter. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the revised proposal includes requirements for six mine action personnel (one international, five national) for two months, until 29 February 2024, contracted through the United Nations Office for Project Services and working under the supervision of the Chief of Mine Action Programme (P-4). As from 1 March 2024, related staffing and activities would be financed from voluntary contributions through the Mine Action Service. The Committee was informed that, in response to Security Council resolution 2715 (2023), which directed UNITAMS to start the process of the transfer of its tasks, where appropriate and to the extent feasible, to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, with the objective of completing this by 29 February 2024, the national mine action authority of the Sudan had requested UNITAMS to facilitate the continuation of mine action support.

III. Other matters

Future employment support for the Mission's national and international staff

28. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that efforts to advocate on behalf of UNITAMS staff and accord them priority consideration were undertaken through a joint memorandum from the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and the Department of Operational Support to all heads of entity. Furthermore, for national staff, the UNITAMS Head of Entity engaged the United Nations country team in the Sudan to ensure that UNITAMS national staff would be

duly accorded consideration for possible vacancies. In accordance with the administrative instruction on downsizing or restructuring resulting in termination of appointments (ST/AI/2023/1), staff are grouped and prioritized for consideration based on set criteria and contractual status, when applying to job openings advertised in Inspira, and are to be accorded priority consideration for selection, provided they meet the minimum requirements. **The Advisory Committee trusts that efforts will continue to be made by UNITAMS to assist national staff at all levels in finding employment opportunities, including by collaborating with the United Nations country team and other international agencies present in the country. The Committee stresses that the relevant staff rules 9.6 (e) and 13.1 (d) for the retention of staff members on permanent and continuing appointments should be adhered to.**

IV. Conclusion

29. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly with respect to the financing of UNITAMS for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024 are presented in section III of the report of the Secretary-General (A/78/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.8).

30. Subject to its observations and recommendations above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly:

(a) Approve the proposed resources in the amount of \$22,162,600 for the drawdown, transition and liquidation of UNITAMS as contained in the present report, which would supersede the commitment authority in the amount of \$21,500,000 approved, with assessment, by the Assembly in its resolution 78/253, section XVII, paragraph 4 (see also resolution 78/254 C, para. 2);

(b) Appropriate an additional amount of \$22,162,600 under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for 2024;

(c) Appropriate an additional amount of \$1,021,400 under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for 2024.