



# General Assembly

Eleventh Session

Distr.: Middle School

XX September 2016

Original: English

## Fifth Committee – Administrative and Budgetary Committee

This group focuses on the organization of the UN and paying for what the UN does. The members of this committee have to look at everything. They plan construction projects, create rules for UN employees and make sure there is enough money to pay for everything.

The general budget for the UN in 2016-2017 is US\$5.4 billion. All the members of the UN must pay a percentage of how much money they make as a country. The US pays the most. They provide 22% of the regular UN budget. The next four countries are Japan, China, Germany and France. The budget for Peacekeeping is separate from the regular budget. It is US\$8.27 billion. The permanent members of the Security Council pay extra for Peacekeeping. They pay extra because they are the ones that decide if a Peacekeeping Mission will happen.

This group meets much more than the other committees. They get together from September to December and also in March. In May they get together and just discuss the finances of UN Peacekeeping Missions.

## Agenda Item 154, 164 and 165 – Financing Peacekeeping Missions

### Background

Peacekeeping is the practice of trying to create peace. It occurs in an area with war or conflict. After World War II the world community made the UN “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.” UN Peacekeeping works to stop wars.

The first UN Peacekeeping Mission was in 1948. A team of observers went to the Middle East after the Arab-Israeli War. Their job was to make sure both sides were following the truce. This Peacekeeping Mission is still going on. Since then there have been 70 more Missions.

When there is trouble in the world the UN monitors it. They see if a Peacekeeping can improve the situation. Then, the Security Council will pass a Resolution asking for a Peacekeeping Operation to begin. The UN does not have soldiers. The force is made up of soldiers that states volunteer. Most Peacekeeping Operations get the consent from the states or groups involved. That way there is more chance of success.

There has been more Peacekeeping in the last 20 years. There have been 56 since 1988. This is not because there is more conflict. It is because more states can agree Peacekeeping is helpful.

However, Peacekeeping is expensive. The least expensive mission costs US\$20 million. The most expensive costs US\$1.3 billion. The total budget for one year is US\$8.27 billion. Still, this is less than 1% of how much all the countries in the world spend on their militaries in one year.

The Security Council has just informed Fifth Committee that they are planning on passing a resolution which will start a new Peacekeeping Mission. But, there is a problem. The budget for the new mission needs to come out of the existing budget.

Fifth Committee decided that the following missions will be reduced in order to create the amount needed: UNAMID, MINURSO and MONUSCO. The total budget for these missions is now US\$2 484 022 300. You will need to take US\$250 million from these budgets in order to create the new mission.

Your country needs to research these missions and figure how the missions need to change in order to get the US\$250 million needed. You will need to negotiate and discuss with the other country representatives in order to fix this problem.

### **African Union / United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur**

This Mission began in July 2007 as a joint operation by the UN and the African Union. There are many reasons for the conflict in Darfur. Civil war, water access and land disputes all contribute to a dangerous situation that puts the lives of civilians at risk. That is why the main goal of this Peacekeeping Mission is to protect civilians. They also make sure agreements are followed by opposing sides and monitor and report on what happens near the border with Chad and the Central African Republic. Violence occurs in these areas because many military groups do not respect international borders. To make matters worse, refugees cross these borders and come in contact with armed groups. The Mission makes about 200 patrols a day to show civilians they are protected. However, sometimes the patrols meet armed groups and it can quickly become a dangerous situation for them.

#### **By the Numbers...**

*Troops – 13 597*

*Military Observers - 170*

*Police – 3 305*

*International Staff – 811*

*Local Staff – 2 601*

*UN Volunteers – 155*

❖ 233 personnel have died in the line of duty.

### **United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara**

This Mission started in 1991 in order to keep peace in the Western Sahara until a vote could be held to see if it should be independent or part of Morocco. Spain used to control this part of Morocco. However, in 1976 Spain decided to take its soldiers out of Western Sahara. At that time Morocco claimed Western Sahara as part of its territory but an armed group, the Polisario Front, fought to make Western Sahara independent. In 1991 it was agreed by both sides that there should be a referendum. However, there was a disagreement about who should be allowed to vote and 25 years later there still has not been a resolution to this problem. Thankfully, there has been a ceasefire since that time. The Peacekeeping Missions keeps both sides apart and patrols along the border between Morocco and Western Sahara.

#### **By the Numbers...**

*Troops – 24*

*Military Observers – 191*

*Local Staff – 157*

*International Staff – 84*

*UN Volunteers - 4*

❖ 15 personnel have died in the line of duty.

### United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

This Mission began in July 2010 and it took over from a Mission that started in the year 2000. The Democratic Republic of Congo has been suffering from instability for a long time. However, over the last 10 things have been improving a lot. There have been elections and less violence but the DRC still has a problem with armed groups, poverty and ethnic violence. In 2013 a special “intervention brigade” was created to help the Mission meet its goals. This brigade can use force to engage with armed groups. The goal of the Mission is to protect civilians and help create peace in the country. The UN wants the country to hold fair and free elections as soon as possible because there is a chance there will be violence if the population does not get a chance to choose who will represent them. The Mission is funded until 31 March 2017.

#### **By the Numbers...**

*Troops – 16 978*

*Military Observers – 471*

*Police – 1 406*

*International Staff – 816*

*Local Staff – 2 654*

*UN Volunteers – 396*

❖ 102 personnel have died in the line of duty.

### **Peacekeeping Costs**

	UNAMID	MINURSO	MONUSCO
Military and Police Personnel Costs	\$552 521 600	\$7 064 200	\$602 867 700
Civilian Personnel Costs	\$278 085 200	\$20 762 700	\$316 122 100
Consultants	\$173 300	\$15 000	\$1 279 700
Official Travel	\$4 646 600	\$670 400	\$8 158 800
Facilities and Infrastructure	\$85 612 500	\$2 979 800	\$83 290 700
Ground Transportation	\$11 271 900	\$1 090 100	\$25 978 100
Air Transportation	\$96 860 000	\$10 699 800	\$188 292 100
Naval Transportation	-	-	\$3 014 700
Communications	\$25 850 300	\$1 774 800	\$23 798 600
Information Technology	\$16 700 200	\$1 313 200	\$18 244 900
Medical	\$1 488 600	\$158 500	\$2 270 800
Other Supplies, Services and Equipment	\$27 954 500	\$4 589 800	\$52 421 100
Quick-impact Projects	\$2 000 000	-	\$5 000 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1 102 164 700</b>	<b>\$51 118 300</b>	<b>\$1 330 739 300</b>

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## Guiding Questions

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1. Research the history of Peacekeeping. How has your country been involved? How have the countries around you been involved?
2. Look at the three Peacekeeping Missions. Is your country involved in any of them? Do you think your country has an interest in the success of these Missions? Why or why not?
3. Research UNAMID. What has been successful? What still needs to happen for the Mission to succeed?
4. Research MINURSO. What has been successful? What still needs to happen for the Mission to succeed?
5. Research MONUSCO. What has been successful? What still needs to happen for the Mission to succeed?
6. Do you think that the goals of any of the Missions should change?
7. Your committee needs to find US\$250 million. Is there any way to save money by having countries work better together? Look at the chart on page 3. How can any of these costs be reduced? What is less necessary for the Mission to be successful?

## Resources

Title	Hyperlink	How is it helpful?
<b><i>United Nations Peacekeeping</i></b>	<a href="http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/">http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/</a>	Main site from the UN about Peacekeeping.
<b><i>Peacekeeping Issues</i></b>	<a href="http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/issues/">http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/issues/</a>	Gives information about all the challenges Peacekeepers face.
<b><i>Providing For Peacekeeping</i></b>	<a href="http://www.providingforpeacekeeping.org/">http://www.providingforpeacekeeping.org/</a>	Website that has a lot of data on how countries are involved in peacekeeping.
<b><i>Resources for Peacekeeping Operations.</i></b>	<a href="http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/C.5/69/24">http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/C.5/69/24</a>	UN document showing the full budget for all UN Peacekeeping Missions.
<b><i>Reform of Peacekeeping</i></b>	<a href="http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/reform.shtml">http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/reform.shtml</a>	Explains what the UN wants to do differently to improve Peacekeeping.
<b><i>UN Peacekeepers Pay Dispute is Resolved</i></b>	<a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/04/world/un-peacekeepers-pay-dispute-is-resolved.html?_r=0">http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/04/world/un-peacekeepers-pay-dispute-is-resolved.html?_r=0</a>	New York Times article about how much Peacekeepers are paid.
<b><i>UNAMID</i></b>	<a href="http://unamid.unmissions.org/">http://unamid.unmissions.org/</a>	Official site for the UNAMID Mission.
<b><i>MONUSCO</i></b>	<a href="https://monusco.unmissions.org/en">https://monusco.unmissions.org/en</a>	Official site for the MONUSCO Mission.
<b><i>MINURSO</i></b>	<a href="https://minurso.unmissions.org/">https://minurso.unmissions.org/</a>	UN site with information on MINURSO.