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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Budget for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

The present report contains the budget for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, which amounts to \$175,266,900.

The budget provides for the deployment of 230 military observers, 3,174 military contingents, 228 international staff, 248 national staff and 74 United Nations Volunteers. In addition, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005 on the comprehensive review of a strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations, five international and two national General Service positions have been provided in the present report.

The total resource requirements for UNMEE for the financial period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 have been linked to the Mission's objective through a number of results-based frameworks, grouped by components: substantive civilian, military and support. The human resources of the Mission in terms of number of personnel have been attributed to the individual components, with the exception of the Mission's executive direction and management, which can be attributed to the Mission as a whole.

The explanations of variances in resource levels, both human resources and financial resources, have, where applicable, been linked to specific outputs planned by the Mission.

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.)

Category	Expenditures (2004/05)	Apportionment (2005/06)	Cost estimates (2006/07)	Variance	
				Amount	Percentage
Military and police personnel	85 550.3	79 597.7	78 085.3	(1 512.4)	(1.9)
Civilian personnel	31 113.0	32 718.3	33 516.4	798.1	2.4
Operational costs	63 667.7	64 348.4	63 665.2	(683.2)	(1.1)
Gross requirements	180 331.0	176 664.4	175 266.9	(1 397.5)	(0.8)
Staff assessment income	4 000.9	4 477.5	3 563.7	(913.8)	(20.4)
Net requirements	176 330.1	172 186.9	171 703.2	(483.7)	(0.3)
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	180 331.0	176 664.4	175 266.9	(1 397.5)	(0.8)

Human resources

	<i>Military observers^a</i>	<i>Military contingents^a</i>	<i>Inter- national staff</i>	<i>National staff^b</i>	<i>General temporary assistance^c</i>	<i>United Nations Volunteers</i>	<i>Total</i>
Executive direction and management							
Approved 2005/06	—	—	7	4	—	—	11
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	27	12	7	—	46
<i>Components</i>							
Substantive civilian							
Approved 2005/06	—	—	47	14	—	11	72
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	47	14	—	10	71
Military							
Approved 2005/06	220	3 184	9	4	—	—	3 417
Proposed 2006/07	230	3 174	9	4	—	—	3 417
Support							
Approved 2005/06	—	—	167	224	—	63	454
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	145	218	—	64	427
Total							
Approved 2005/06	220	3 184	230	246	—	74	3 954
Proposed 2006/07	230	3 174	228	248	7	74	3 961
Net change	10	(10)	(2)	2	7	—	7

^a Represents highest level of authorized/proposed strength.

^b Includes national officers and national General Service staff.

^c Provides for 5 international and 2 national positions for the Conduct and Discipline Team.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section IV of the present report.

I. Mandate and planned results

1. The mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) was established by the Security Council in its resolutions 1312 (2000) and 1320 (2000) and further adjusted by the Council in its resolutions 1430 (2002) and 1531 (2004). The most recent continuation of the mandate was provided by the Council in its resolution 1622 (2005).

2. The Mission is mandated to help the Security Council achieve an overall objective, namely, the peaceful settlement of the dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

3. Within this overall objective, the Mission will, during the budget period, contribute to a number of expected accomplishments by delivering related key outputs, shown in the frameworks below. These frameworks are grouped by components: substantive civilian, military and support.

4. The expected accomplishments would lead to the fulfilment of the Security Council's objective within the lifetime of the Mission and the indicators of achievement show a measurement of progress towards such accomplishments during the budget period. The human resources of the Mission in terms of the number of personnel have been attributed to the individual components, with the exception of the Mission's executive direction and management, which can be attributed to the Mission as a whole. Variances in the number of personnel, compared to the budget of 2005/06, have been explained under the respective components.

5. In 2006/07, the Mission seeks efficiency gains in the area of administrative support. Based on a review of staffing requirements, it has been decided to make an adjustment to the level of staffing in the Finance Section, which currently has nine international and seven national level posts. From the nine international posts approved for the Finance Section, two General Service posts were identified for conversion to the national level. It is the Mission's view that the remaining seven international posts will be adequate to guide operations and to ensure business continuity and adherence to the financial regulations and rules.

6. In line with Security Council resolution 1622 (2005) and, as specified in the report of the Secretary-General on Ethiopia and Eritrea of 30 August 2005 (S/2005/553), the authorized number of military observers has been increased by 10 to a total of 230, within the overall existing authorized strength of 3,404 military personnel. The reconfiguration of the military component on UNMEE, which was undertaken in 2005/06, will be complemented by a modest increase in observation capacity and in the flying hours of the two existing military helicopters, for the purpose of air reconnaissance, in addition to the current operational activities.

7. The Mission is headed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the level of Under-Secretary-General, with offices located in Asmara and Addis Ababa. Two Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, one at the Assistant Secretary-General level and one at the D-2 level, with offices located in Asmara and Addis Ababa, respectively, assist him. A Force Commander at the D-2 level heads military operations. A Principal Political Affairs Officer at the D-1 level heads the Political Affairs Office, while a Chief Administrative Officer at the D-1 level heads the administrative support component.

Executive direction and management

8. Overall Mission direction and management are to be provided by the immediate Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, managed by a Director at the D-1 level.

Table 1

Human resources: Executive direction and management

	International staff								National staff ^a	General temporary assistance	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG -ASG	D-2 -D-1	P-5 -P-4	P-3 -P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal				
Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General												
Approved 2005/06	1	1	3	—	—	2	—	7	4	—	—	11
Proposed 2006/07	1	1	3	—	—	2	—	7	4	7	—	18
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
Security Section												
Approved 2005/06	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	1	3	15	1	—	20	8	—	—	28
Net change	—	—	1	3	15	1	—	20	8	—	—	28
Total												
Approved 2005/06	1	1	3	—	—	2	—	7	4	—	—	11
Proposed 2006/07	1	1	4	3	15	3	—	27	12	7	—	46
Net change	—	—	1	3	15	1	—	20	8	7	—	35

^a Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

Justification

Conduct and Discipline Team

- International staff: 5 additional positions (4 Professional and 1 Field Service)**

The Conduct and Discipline Team will provide a full-time, dedicated capacity to address personnel conduct issues relating to all categories of peacekeeping personnel. The primary aim of this capacity will be to make recommendations on how to prevent, identify and respond to misconduct by all categories of Mission personnel. The Team would also ensure that training on United Nations standards of conduct includes specific material on sexual exploitation and abuse. It will report to the Director of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and have direct access to the Head of Mission, as required. The Team shall comprise one position of Chief, Conduct and Discipline Team at the P-5 level, two positions of Conduct and Discipline Officer at the P-4 level, one position of Reports Officer at the P-2 level and one position of Administrative Assistant at the Field Service level, all provided under general temporary assistance.

- **National staff: 2 additional positions**

In addition to the international positions, the Conduct and Discipline Team shall also comprise two General Service positions of Administrative Assistant at the national level provided under general temporary assistance. The Administrative Assistants will work closely with their international counterparts to provide general administrative support to the team.

Security Section

- **International staff: 20 redeployed posts (4 Professional, 15 Field Service and 1 General Service)**

The General Assembly, in section XI of its resolution 59/276, recognized the need for the urgent implementation of a unified security management system in order to ensure the safety and security of United Nations staff, operations and premises at United Nations Headquarters and the main duty stations, as well as in the field. In paragraph 40 of the same resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to provide, in the context of the implementation report, information on strengthening the cooperation between the Department of Safety and Security and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with respect to security decisions that may affect the conduct of peacekeeping operations, in the framework of the unified security management system, which would be led by the Department of Safety and Security. In order to meet this requirement, security components of the Department of Safety and Security and the mission security components have been integrated into a single security structure in countries where peacekeeping operations are present.

Within the context of the above-mentioned resolution, the Head of Mission is accountable to the Secretary-General, through the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, under the overall guidance of the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security. Consequently, the Security Section in UNMEE, consisting of 28 personnel, is being redeployed to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Head of Mission) from the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

- **National staff: 8 redeployed posts**

The eight national-level General Service posts in the Security Section, currently under the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, are also being redeployed to report directly to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Component 1: substantive civilian

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
1.1 Peaceful settlement of the border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea	1.1.1 Continued dialogue with each of the parties to the conflict in regular meetings/consultations with the Head of Mission Increase from 53 in 2004/05 to 70 in 2005/06 to 100 in 2006/07
<i>Outputs</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization of 70 meetings and consultations between high-level political officials and religious leaders of both parties with the Head of Mission • 150 political meetings and briefings with external stakeholders of the peace process, including representatives of the five permanent Members of the Security Council, Friends of UNMEE, representatives of the diplomatic community in both countries, representatives of the European Union and the African Union and visiting delegates 	

- 30 field visits by the Head of Mission and senior management to high-level community officials in the temporary security zone and its adjacent areas
- 4 reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council
- Television/radio campaign on peaceful settlement of the border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea, including: 2 4-hour broadcasts twice a week in 7 languages; 7 indirect advertisements; 7 direct advertisements promoting radio programmes, 12 television/radio public service announcements in 7 languages; 10 episodes of a 30-minute television drama and 5 episodes of “video dialogue” in 2 languages, 1 television documentary
- Print media, including: 12 monthly newsletters in English, Amharic and Tigrinya, with inclusion of Afaan, Oromo and Afar on an experimental basis, and 10 special editions; 15,000 calendars distributed Mission-wide
- 52 weekly press briefings
- Maintenance of 3 outreach centres in Ethiopia for 40,000 visitors

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
1.2 Safe and secure living conditions in the temporary security zone and adjacent areas	<p>1.2.1 Increase in the total number of internally displaced persons in Ethiopia and Eritrea returned to their respective homes from 1,358 in 2004/05 to 20,000 in 2005/06 to 30,000 in 2006/07</p> <p>1.2.2 Increase in the total number of people resettled that were directly affected by the transfer of territory from 800 in 2004/05 to 40,000 in 2005/06 to 40,000 in 2006/07</p>

Outputs

- Monitoring of the return and resettlement of 113,000 internally displaced persons
- Monitoring of the human rights and humanitarian situation of 40,000 people affected by the transfer of territory
- 50 fact-finding and monitoring trips within the temporary security zone, including with representatives of the United Nations country teams (the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)) and/or donors
- Logistics and technical support (visit preparation, briefing and data sharing) to United Nation country teams
- Participation in 40 weekly and 12 monthly collaborative meetings of the United Nations country teams, the annual joint meeting of the country teams of Ethiopia and Eritrea and ad hoc meetings, as necessary, on humanitarian issues
- Regular coordination of Mission activities in the temporary security zone and its adjacent areas with the humanitarian activities and reconstruction programmes of United Nations agencies such as UNICEF, UNDP, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other organizations working in those areas
- Implementation of 50 quick-impact projects in health, education and water in the temporary security zone and its adjacent areas, with frequent field visits to monitor progress and timely completion

- 15 joint monitoring humanitarian missions in Eritrea and Ethiopia with government authorities, United Nations country teams and donors
- Conduct of joint HIV/AIDS awareness activities (workshops, participation in promotional events, observation of HIV/AIDS Day) with other United Nations agencies (UNAIDS, UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO)), host nations' armed forces and the local population

*Expected accomplishments**Indicators of achievement*

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1.3 Progress towards meeting human rights commitments contained in the Algiers Agreements | 1.3.1 Reduction in the number of reported cases of cross-border abductions, detentions and "disappearances" or human rights violations from 100 in 2004/05 to 65 in 2005/06 to 50 in 2006/07 |
|---|--|

Outputs

- Investigation of 90 cases of cross-border incidents, including abductions, detentions and disappearances and/or other human rights violations
- 100 meetings to coordinate and advise on human rights policies to be implemented with local authorities in both countries and/or with civic groups in Ethiopia
- 120 monitoring visits to camps for internally displaced persons, refugees and returnees and other transit camps
- Conduct of 200 interviews during six scheduled repatriations of nationals of Ethiopia and Eritrea, with 750 civilians of Ethiopian origin repatriating from Eritrea and 200 civilians of Eritrean origin repatriating from Ethiopia, in order to collect information on the human rights situation in the country of departure
- Chairing of and/or participation in 30 meetings of joint UNMEE/United Nations country team human rights working groups in Ethiopia and Eritrea to exchange information and coordinate human rights strategies, activities and programmes in both countries
- Technical advice to United Nations country teams on the integration of human rights aspects into their respective programmes
- Organization/conduct of 40 human rights lectures, workshops and briefings during seminars for law enforcement officials, justice and prison officials, and/or other Government institutions, women's and youth associations, civil society organizations and universities in both countries
- Organization of 6 human rights needs assessment missions to both countries concerning the implementation of technical cooperation programmes
- Technical advice to local authorities in both countries, including police and prison officials, on human rights training materials used
- Conduct of 4 human rights annual promotional events, including International Human Rights Day, United Nations Peace Day and United Nations Day

External factors

- No major natural disasters affecting the humanitarian situation will take place
- Regional stability will be maintained
- Voluntary contributions will be forthcoming in a timely manner

Table 2

Human resources: component 1, substantive civilian

	International staff												
	USG -ASG	D-2 -D-1	P-5 -P-4	P-3 -P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal	National staff ^a	General temporary assistance	United Nations Volunteers	Total	
Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Asmara													
Approved 2005/06	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	3	
Proposed 2006/07	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	3	
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Addis Ababa													
Approved 2005/06	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	3	—	—	6	
Proposed 2006/07	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	3	—	—	6	
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Office of Political Affairs													
Approved 2005/06	—	1	6	8	—	2	—	17	—	—	—	17	
Proposed 2006/07	—	1	6	8	—	2	—	17	—	—	—	17	
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Human Rights Office													
Approved 2005/06	—	—	3	4	—	2	—	9	2	—	6	17	
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	3	4	—	2	—	9	2	—	6	17	
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Office of Public Information													
Approved 2005/06	—	—	4	4	5	1	—	14	9	—	4	27	
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	4	4	5	1	—	14	9	—	4	27	
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
HIV/AIDS Unit													
Approved 2005/06	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)	

	<i>International staff</i>								<i>National staff^a</i>	<i>General temporary assistance</i>	<i>United Nations Volunteers</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>USG -ASG</i>	<i>D-2 -D-1</i>	<i>P-5 -P-4</i>	<i>P-3 -P-1</i>	<i>Field Service</i>	<i>General Service</i>	<i>Security Service</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>				
Total												
Approved 2005/06	1	2	16	16	5	7	—	47	14	—	11	72
Proposed 2006/07	1	2	16	16	5	7	—	47	14	—	10	71
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)

^a Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

Justification

HIV/AIDS Unit

- **United Nations Volunteers: redeployment of 1 post**

The above-mentioned post was assigned to the HIV/AIDS Unit under the Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Asmara. The function of the post was primarily to assist in the establishment and development of HIV/AIDS policy issues. Now that the HIV/AIDS Unit has been established and is operational, the post is no longer required. It is therefore proposed to redeploy this post to the United Nations Volunteers Support Unit.

Component 2: military

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
2.1 Maintenance of separation of forces, security and integrity of the temporary security zone and its adjacent areas	2.1.1 No serious violations of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities (2004/05: 0; 2005/06: 0; 2006/07: 0)

Outputs

- Chairing of 9 Military Coordination Commission meetings with the two parties
- Chairing of 36 Sector Military Coordination Committees meetings with the parties
- 58,400 military observer mobile patrol person days (4 military observers per patrol x twice a day x 20 posts x 365 days)
- 233,600 foot patrol person days (8 troops per patrol x twice a day x 40 posts x 365 days)
- 3,168 air patrol hours (176 patrols per month x 1.5 hours per patrol x 12 months)
- 181,040 troop manned static observation post person days (8 troops per post x 62 posts x 365 days)
- 6,240 challenge inspections inside the temporary security zone (3 military observers x 20 team sites x 2 hours/inspection x 52 weeks)

- Investigation of 600 minor incidents, such as cattle belonging to either party grazing/straying into the temporary security zone or across borders, abduction of cattle/men by either side, firing in the air, or mine/unexploded ordnance explosions

<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>
2.2 Reduced threat of mines in the temporary security zone and its adjacent areas	<p>2.2.1 Reduction in the number of casualties among the local population resulting from mine accidents from 40 in 2004/05 to 30 in 2005/06 to 20 in 2006/07</p> <p>2.2.2 Reduction in the newly laid anti-tank mine strikes on roads within the temporary security zone and adjacent areas from 4 in 2004/05 to 3 in 2005/06 to 2 in 2006/07</p>

Outputs

- Clearing of 10,000 km of access roads to 25 potential pillar sites
- Clearing of 165,000 m² of pillar sites of mines and unexploded ordnance in order to support demarcation
- Investigation of 15 mine accidents
- Identification and disposal of 25,000 unexploded ordnance in various locations, ranging from small arms ammunition to large bombs
- Clearing of up to 30 million m² of land on Force mobility and training tasks
- 2 updated mine and unexploded ordnance threat assessments
- Update of mines database and area of responsibility maps
- Mine risk education training for 25,000 civilians

External factors

- The parties will not restrict the freedom of movement of UNMEE
- The situation in the Mission area remains stable

Table 3
Human resources: component 2, military

<i>Category</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>I. Military observers</i>	
Approved 2005/06	220
Proposed 2006/07	230
Net change	10
<i>II. Military contingents</i>	
Approved 2005/06	3 184
Proposed 2006/07	3 174
Net change	(10)

III. Civilian staff	International staff								National staff ^a	General temporary assistance	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG -ASG	D-2 -D-1	P-5 -P-4	P-3 -P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal				
Office of the Force Commander												
Approved 2005/06	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	4	2	—	—	6
Proposed 2006/07	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	4	2	—	—	6
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military Coordination Commission secretariat												
Approved 2005/06	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	5	2	—	—	7
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	5	2	—	—	7
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal, civilian staff												
Approved 2005/06	—	2	—	3	—	4	—	9	4	—	—	13
Proposed 2006/07	—	2	—	3	—	4	—	9	4	—	—	13
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand total (I-III)												
Approved 2005/06	—	2	—	3	—	4	—	9	4	—	—	3 417
Proposed 2006/07	—	2	—	4	—	4	—	9	4	—	—	3 417
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

^a Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

Component 3: Support

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
3.1 Effective and efficient logistical, administrative and security support to the Mission	<p>3.1.1 Increased representation of vendors from developing countries with economies in transition on vendor roster from 10 per cent in 2004/05 and 2005/06 to 20 per cent in 2006/07</p> <p>3.1.2 Reduction in average number of days taken to submit contingent strength and contingent-owned equipment verification reports to Headquarters from 45 in 2004/05 to 40 in 2005/06 to 35 in 2006/07</p> <p>3.1.3 100 per cent compliance with Minimum Operational Security Standards and International Fire Safety standards</p>

- 3.1.4 Property owners issue handing/taking over certificate indemnifying UNMEE from environmental liabilities and any improvement works in 100 per cent of locations vacated by UNMEE from 62.5 per cent in 2004/05 and 2005/06 to 100 per cent in 2006/07

Outputs

Service improvement

- Implementation of a structured plan which guarantees continuity in simplifying vendor registration and introduction of additional measures to sensitize the third world business communities to UNMEE procurement requirements by utilizing the UNMEE portal
- Streamlining of processing of contingent-owned equipment and troop strength verification reports
- Identification and implementation of physical security measures in order to enhance protection of all UNMEE premises; implementation of fire safety operations requiring professional assessment, including specifications and classifications of particular fire extinguishers; and selection of proper types of fire extinguishers for concrete types of operations, as well as refilling, sealing and certification after routine inspection/maintenance
- Implementation of environmental protection measures at all locations vacated by the Mission, including collection and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste generated at all Mission installations/locations in an environmentally friendly manner, and restoration of sites to their original condition

Military and police personnel

- Emplacement, rotation and repatriation of an average troop strength of 3,174 and 230 military observers
- Supply of rations and water at 19 locations for an average troop strength of 3,174
- 80 memorandum of understanding verification reports, 40 operational readiness inspections, 20 contingent-owned equipment verification inspections, review of 10 memorandums of understanding

Personnel

- Administration of an average number of 233 international staff, 250 national staff and 74 United Nations Volunteers

Facilities

- Maintenance of 46 facilities and 25 land parcels in 28 locations
- Operation and maintenance of 2 water purification and bottling plants
- Maintenance of 22 water wells
- Operation and maintenance of 200 generators
- Operation and maintenance of 1,600 air conditioners
- Maintenance of 140 km of supply routes, including repair of 22 km
- Operation and maintenance of 45 helicopter landing sites

Ground transportation

- Operation and maintenance of 499 vehicles, including 53 armoured scout vehicles, in 7 locations
- Operation and maintenance of 7 transport workshops and operation of 2 mobile workshops

Air transportation

- Operation and maintenance of 3 fixed-wing and 9 rotary-wing aircraft

Communications

- Support and maintenance of the Mission's communications network

Information technology

- Support and maintenance of 791 desktops, 160 laptops, 322 printers, 5 plotters and 90 servers in 25 locations

Medical

- Operation and maintenance of 1 civilian and 5 military level I clinics and 1 level II military hospital for Mission personnel and maintenance of land and air evacuation arrangements to all United Nations locations, including the approval of medical evacuations outside the Mission area
- Distribution of safe sex promotional material to all military personnel and co-location and maintenance of electronic HIV/AIDS libraries with 9 focal points
- Conduct of induction training for HIV/AIDS competency for all new staff and training of trainers course for 100 peer leaders in HIV/AIDS prevention, with consequent training reaching 98 per cent of contingent members

Other supplies and services

- Production of 5,500 various maps

Security

- Provision of security 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to 5 installations and 6 premises
- Investigation of incidents/accidents involving United Nations personnel and property

Military and civilian personnel

- Implementation of a conduct and discipline programme for all military and civilian personnel, including training, prevention, monitoring and recommendations on disciplinary actions
- Monitoring and reporting on children in armed conflict to the Security Council and Member States in accordance with Council resolutions

External factors

- Environmental factors, including weather conditions, will not hamper Mission's operations
 - Vendors/contractors/suppliers are able to deliver goods and services as contracted
 - Movement of Mission's staff in pursuit of official duties is not restricted
-

Table 4
Human resources: component 3, support

	International staff											
	USG -ASG	D-2 -D-1	P-5 -P-4	P-3 -P-1	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal	National staff ^a	General temporary assistance	United Nations Volunteers	Total
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer												
Approved 2005/06	—	1	3	7	32	5	—	48	53	—	19	120
Proposed 2006/07	—	1	2	4	17	4	—	28	45	—	21	94
Net change	—	—	(1)	(3)	(15)	(1)	—	(20)	(8)	—	2	(26)
Office of the Chief of Administrative Services												
Approved 2005/06	—	—	6	11	21	5	—	43	40	—	6	89
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	6	11	21	3	—	41	42	—	6	89
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	(2)	—	(2)	2	—	—	—
Office of Integrated Support Services												
Approved 2005/06	—	—	10	13	45	8	—	76	131	—	38	245
Proposed 2006/07	—	—	10	13	45	8	—	76	131	—	37	244
Net change	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)
Total												
Approved 2005/06	—	1	19	31	98	18	—	167	224	—	63	454
Proposed 2006/07	—	1	18	28	83	15	—	145	218	—	64	427
Net change	—	—	(1)	(3)	(15)	(3)	—	(22)	(6)	—	1	(27)

^a Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.

Justification

Security Section

- **International staff: 20 redeployed posts (4 Professional, 15 Field Service and 1 General Service)**
- **National staff: 8 redeployed posts**

As indicated under the section on executive direction and management of the present report, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations has decided to assign responsibilities for security to the Head of Mission within each peacekeeping operation in order to implement the provisions of General Assembly resolution 59/276 on the strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations. As a consequence, the UNMEE Security Section, comprising 28 personnel, is being redeployed from the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer to that of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Finance Section

- **International staff: 2 General Service posts converted to national posts**

Based on a review of staffing requirements, it has been decided to make an adjustment to the level of staffing in the Finance Section which currently has 9 international and 7 national level posts. From the 9 international posts approved for the Finance Section, 2 General Service posts of Finance Assistants were identified for conversion to 2 National level posts. It is the Mission's view that the remaining 7 international posts will be adequate to guide operations and ensure business continuity and adherence to the financial regulations and rules. The staffing will then comprise the Chief Finance Officer, 3 Unit Chiefs, the Cashier and 2 Finance Assistants, 1 with extensive technical knowledge to act as systems administrator for Sun/Insight/Progen and to attend to external training/workshops

United Nations Volunteers Support Unit

- **Redeployment of 2 United Nations Volunteers**

- **1 United Nations Volunteer from the Office of the Chief of Integrated Support Services and 1 United Nations Volunteer from the HIV/AIDS Unit**

The memorandum of understanding signed between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the United Nations Volunteers, Bonn, states that 1 United Nations Volunteers Programme Manager (UNDP staff) and 2 United Nations Volunteers should be recruited and assigned to the United Nations Volunteers Support Unit in UNMEE to provide administrative support and manage 74 United Nations Volunteers. After reviewing the current strength of United Nations Volunteers available to UNMEE, it has been decided to meet this requirement from existing resources. Owing to the recent troop reconfiguration and the consolidation of 3 sectors into 2 main sectors and 1 subsector in the east, it has become possible to release 1 United Nations Volunteers post from the Office of the Chief of Integrated Support Services and reassign that post to the United Nations Volunteers Support Unit. The second post for the Unit could be met by redeployment of 1 post from the HIV/AIDS Unit, as indicated under component 1, substantive civilian. Approval is therefore requested for the redeployment of those 2 posts.

II. Resource requirements

A. Overall

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.)

Category	Expenditures (2004/05)	Apportionment (2005/06)	Cost estimates (2006/07)	Variance	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	Amount (4)=(3)-(2)	Percentage (5)=(4)÷(2)
Military and police personnel					
Military observers	7 428.3	7 308.8	7 822.8	514.0	7.0
Military contingents	78 122.0	72 288.9	70 262.5	(2 026.4)	(2.8)
Civilian police	—	—	—	—	—
Formed police units	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	85 550.3	79 597.7	78 085.3	(1 512.4)	(1.9)
Civilian personnel					
International staff ^a	27 004.3	29 113.2	29 753.3	640.1	2.2
National staff ^b	1 190.9	1 065.0	1 198.4	133.4	12.5
United Nations Volunteers	2 917.8	2 540.1	2 564.7	24.6	1.0
Subtotal	31 113.0	32 718.3	33 516.4	798.1	2.4
Operational costs					
General temporary assistance	—	—	635.5	635.5	100
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants	—	—	—	—	—
Official travel	637.3	700.0	520.7	(179.3)	(25.6)
Facilities and infrastructure	18 213.4	16 538.3	16 481.3	(57.0)	(0.3)
Ground transportation	5 215.5	5 873.7	6 094.5	220.8	3.8
Air transportation	18 715.7	21 869.7	22 471.8	602.1	2.8
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Communications	5 880.4	5 993.0	5 760.8	(232.2)	(3.9)
Information technology	2 117.5	1 425.1	1 088.5	(336.6)	(23.6)
Medical	2 477.2	2 276.2	2 168.5	(107.7)	(4.7)
Special equipment	1 448.1	1 412.9	1 387.7	(25.2)	(1.8)
Other supplies, services and equipment	8 962.6	8 259.5	7 055.9	(1 203.6)	(14.6)
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	63 667.7	64 348.4	63 665.2	(683.2)	(1.1)
Gross requirements	180 331.0	176 664.4	175 266.9	(1 397.5)	(0.8)
Staff assessment income	4 000.9	4 477.5	3 563.7	(913.8)	(20.4)
Net requirements	176 330.1	172 186.9	171 703.2	(483.7)	(0.3)
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	180 331.0	176 664.4	175 266.9	(1 397.5)	(0.8)

^a Cost estimates for 2005/06 and 2006/07 are inclusive of a 5% vacancy rate.

^b Cost estimates for 2006/07 are inclusive of a 2% vacancy rate compared to a 5% vacancy rate applied in 2005/06.

B. Contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

9. Requirements for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 are based on standard reimbursement rates for major equipment (wet-lease) and self-sustainment in the total amount of \$25,133,900 as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Estimated amount</i>
Major equipment	
Military contingents	13 420.3
Subtotal	13 420.3
Self-sustainment	
Facilities and infrastructure	
Catering (kitchen facilities)	923.3
Office equipment	715.8
Electrical	847.8
Minor engineering	559.2
Laundry and cleaning	773.2
Tentage	—
Accommodation	16.0
Miscellaneous general stores	1 563.1
Unique equipment	—
Field defence stores	—
Communications	
Communications	3 041.3
Medical	
Medical services	1 906.5
Special equipment	
Explosive ordnance disposal	257.3
Observation	1 110.1
Identification	—
Nuclear, biological and chemical protection	—
Subtotal	11 713.6
Total	25 133.9

<i>Mission factors</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Effective date</i>	<i>Last review date</i>
A. Applicable to Mission area			
Extremely environmental condition factor	1.10	1 July 2004	1 July 2002
Intensified operational condition factor	3.80	1 July 2004	1 July 2002
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	1.90	1 July 2004	1 July 2002
B. Applicable to home country			
Incremental transportation factor	0.25-3.50		

C. Training

10. The estimated requirements for training for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 are as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Estimated amount</i>
Consultants	
Training consultants	—
Official travel	
Official travel, training	109.0
Other supplies, services and equipment	
Training fees, supplies and services	179.4
Total	288.4

11. The Mission is promoting the train-the-trainer concept so that candidates attending external courses can then train other staff on their return to the Mission, thereby reducing the cost of travel. The use of on-line training is also being encouraged. During the budget period, several of the planned courses will focus on the training needs of staff responsible for the operational safety of premises, equipment and personnel.

III. Analysis of variances¹

Reference

The present section describes the single largest contributing factor of each resource variance according to specific standard options encompassed in the four standard categories listed below:

Mandate: variances caused by changes in the scale or scope of the mandate, or changes in the expected accomplishments as driven by the mandate;

External: variances caused by parties or situations external to the United Nations;

Cost parameters: variances caused by United Nations regulations, rules and policies;

Management: variances caused by management actions to achieve planned results more effectively (e.g. by reprioritizing or adding certain outputs) or efficiently (e.g. by taking measures to reduce personnel or operational inputs while maintaining the same level of outputs) and/or from performance-related issues (e.g. by having underestimated the costs or quantities of inputs required to produce a certain level of outputs, or by delayed recruitment).

¹ Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Military observers	\$514.0	7%

• **Mandate: change in scale/scope of mandate**

12. The increased provision under this heading relates to the increase in strength from 220 to 230, as approved by the Security Council in its resolution 1622 (2005).

	<i>Variance</i>	
Military contingents	(\$2 026.4)	(2.8%)

• **Management: reduced input and same output**

13. The variance is due primarily to the reduced provision for reimbursement to troop-contributing countries for troop costs and contingent-owned equipment provided under self-sustainment resulting from a reduction in the budgeted strength from 3,184 to 3,174 contingent personnel and to reduced requirements for freight for contingent-owned equipment.

	<i>Variance</i>	
International staff	\$640.1	2.2%

• **Management: reduced input and same output**

14. The most significant factor contributing to the variance is the reduction of requirements for staff assessment based on the report of the International Civil Service Commission (A/60/30), which highlights the need to reduce the staff assessment resources by 20 per cent in order to address imbalances in the Tax Equalization Fund. Accordingly, staff assessment has been reduced in order to achieve a reduction in the Tax Equalization Fund.

	<i>Variance</i>	
National staff	\$133.4	12.5%

• **Cost parameters: additional inputs and additional outputs**

15. The variance is due to the application of an average of the net salaries for 300 and 100 series staff, as it is anticipated that 50 per cent of the national staff will have been converted from the 300 to the 100 series by July 2006. The variance also takes into account the proposed increase in the number of staff from 246 to 248, resulting from the conversion of two international General Service posts to national-level posts.

	<i>Variance</i>	
General temporary assistance	\$635.5	100%

• **Management: additional inputs and additional outputs**

16. The estimate provides for the establishment of a Conduct and Discipline Team in the Mission in accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/300 on the

comprehensive review of a strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The team will comprise five international positions (1 P-5, 2 P-4, 1 P-2, 1 Field Service) and two national-level positions.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Official travel	(\$179.3)	(25.6%)

• **Management: reduced input and reduced output**

17. The variance is due to the transfer of requirements for headquarters travel to the support account for peacekeeping operations and to lower budgeted requirements for travel for training, as UNMEE is focusing on training within the Mission area.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Ground transportation	\$220.8	3.8%

• **External: change in market rates**

18. The variance is due primarily to the increased cost of petrol, oil and lubricants in the marketplace from \$0.52 per litre for fuel to the current rate of \$1.07 per litre

	<i>Variance</i>	
Air transportation	\$602.1	2.8%

• **External: change in market rates**

19. The variance is due mainly to an increase in fuel prices. The estimates for the current period were based on \$0.50 per litre. The current market price in the Mission area averages \$1.00 per litre.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Communications	(\$232.2)	(3.9%)

• **Cost parameters: reduced inputs and same output**

20. The variance is due primarily to reduced requirements for the purchase of new equipment.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Information technology	(\$336.6)	(23.6%)

• **Management: reduced inputs and same outputs**

21. The most significant factor contributing to the variance is a reduction in the cost of information technology services resulting from new contractual arrangements.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Medical	(\$107.7)	(4.7%)

• **Cost parameters: reduced inputs and same outputs**

22. The variance is due mainly to a reduction in the amounts estimated for medical services for the treatment of staff at outside medical facilities and for medical evacuations owing to increased reliance on Mission assets.

	<i>Variance</i>	
Other supplies, services and equipment	(\$1,203.6)	(14.6%)

• **Management: reduced input and reduced outputs**

23. The variance is due primarily to the elimination of the provision for mine detection and mine-clearance services in support of demarcation, as it is anticipated that the demarcation of pillar sites may be delayed. Provision is made, however, for support staff for assessment of landmine threats and information management, planning and coordination, quality assurance, and management and assistance in resource mobilization, as well as for contractual services for engagement for mine-clearance and mine-awareness services.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

24. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the Mission are:

(a) **Appropriation of the amount of \$175,266,900, for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;**

(b) **Assessment of the amount in subparagraph (a) above at a monthly rate of \$14,605,575 should the Security Council decide to continue the mandate of the Mission.**

V. Summary of follow-up action taken to implement the decisions and requests made by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/296 and the requests and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions endorsed by the General Assembly and of the United Nations Board of Auditors

A. General Assembly

Resolution 59/296

Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General

Action taken to implement decisions and requests

Section I

Submit an annual overview report on the financing of peacekeeping missions, reporting, inter alia, on trends in the size, composition and funding of peacekeeping, relevant developments in peacekeeping operations, efforts to improve the management and functioning of peacekeeping operations and the management priorities for the coming year as well as actions taken to implement the provisions of resolution 59/296 (para. 3).

UNMEE is mandated to help the Security Council achieve the peaceful settlement of the dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea. The authorized military strength approved most recently by the Council in its resolution 1622 (2005) is 3,404, including 230 military observers. The current civilian personnel comprises 228 international, 248 national staff and 74 United Nations Volunteers.

Provide relevant information in the individual budget submissions of peacekeeping operations for the financial period 2006/07 on the efficiencies resulting from the implementation of the applicable provisions of the resolution 59/296 (para. 4).

UNMEE has been continuously implementing service improvements to achieve efficiency gains, thereby reducing its maintenance costs.

Section II: results-based budgeting

Decides that the progressive implementation of results-based budgeting should be in full compliance with General Assembly resolution 55/231 (para. 3).

UNMEE has submitted the results-based framework in its budget proposals in compliance with resolution 55/231.

Ensure that the purpose of the indicators of achievement is not to assess the performance of Member States but, where possible, to reflect the contributions by peacekeeping missions to the expected accomplishments and objectives, in keeping with their respective mandates (para.5).

UNMEE has submitted indicators of achievement that reflect the mission-specific objectives related only to its mandate.

Submit future budget proposals in full compliance with General Assembly resolution 55/231 (para. 6).

UNMEE submitted its 2006/07 budget proposal in full compliance with resolution 55/231.

To continue to refine the existing results-based budgeting framework and to provide clearer financial information on all components of the missions (para. 7).

UNMEE is continuing to refine its results-based budgeting framework in order to provide clearer financial information on all components.

*Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General**Action taken to implement decisions and requests*

Integrate operational, logistical and financial aspects fully in the planning phase of peacekeeping operations by linking results-based budgeting to the mandate implementation plans of peacekeeping operations (para. 8).

In the budget for the 2006/07 period, UNMEE has integrated operational, logistical and financial aspects and linked the results-based budgeting framework to its mandate implementation plan.

Section III: budget presentation

Provide in the budget documents the necessary information available that fully justifies the Secretary-General's resource requirements (para. 2).

Resource requirements have been fully justified in the present submission, as is the case for the 2006/07 budget.

Ensure that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and all missions make every effort to introduce strict budgetary discipline and enforce adequate controls over budget implementation (para. 5).

Budget implementation has been done strictly in accordance with the United Nations field financial rules and regulations and parameters set by the Controller.

The submission of budget proposals from missions to Headquarters should constitute part of the leadership and accountability functions of the Head of Mission/Special Representative (para. 7).

UNMEE has established a Budget Review Committee comprising senior managers who were involved in the preparation of the 2006/07 budget, specifically in the process of making decisions on financial resource requirements. The Committee reports its decisions directly to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, who reviews and endorses the budget proposal.

Affirms that budget submissions should, to the extent possible, reflect management improvements and efficiency gains to be achieved and articulate future strategies in this regard (para. 9).

UNMEE has continuously improved its operations, which has resulted in efficiency gains and reduction in cost, which are reflected in the present budget submission.

Undertake the review of the functions of the posts as an ongoing exercise and to determine the level of posts according to changing operational requirements as well as the actual responsibilities and functions performed, with a view to ensuring the most cost-effective use of resources (para. 10).

UNMEE undertook a review of the functions of posts and staffing levels in line with the reconfiguration of the Mission in 2005/06. UNMEE has again reviewed its staffing requirements and the functions of posts for the 2006/07 budget period.

Section IV: review of the management structure of all peacekeeping operations

To ensure that the remaining complex operations conduct the requested review and streamline their structures and to report thereon in the context of the relevant budget submissions (para. 1).

UNMEE has a well-established organizational structure with streamlined reporting lines. In the 2006/07 budget, it is proposed that the Security Section report directly to the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, as per the directive from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, instead of to the Chief Administrative Officer.

*Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General**Action taken to implement decisions and requests*

Monitor the evolution of structures in individual peacekeeping operations to avoid the duplication of functions and an excessive proportion of higher-grade posts, bearing in mind the mandates, complexities and specificities of each mission (para. 2).

UNMEE has been closely monitoring its existing structure and will restructure, if required, in order to avoid the duplication of functions and an excessive proportion of higher-grade posts. The Mission has conducted staffing reviews in which section chiefs are required to justify their current staffing resources.

Take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in peacekeeping missions, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) (para. 11).

A comprehensive security assessment was carried out in March 2005 by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, outlining the poor security arrangements that were in place for the UNMEE Asmara headquarters building and other UNMEE facilities. It was recommended that T-walls should cover the entire outside area of the UNMEE headquarters building as a first line of defence. In addition, a proper gate should be constructed according to safety standards. This proposal was rejected by the Eritrean authorities. Moreover, the proposed relocation of UNMEE Asmara headquarters is still pending a response from the Government. With regard to the office in Addis Ababa, additional security guards were provided.

Review the level and functions of the protocol officers, bearing in mind the relevant observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (para. 12).

Not applicable.

Section VI: disarmament, demobilization (including reinsertion) and reintegration

Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes are a critical part of peace processes and integrated peacekeeping operations, as mandated by the Security Council, and supports strengthening the coordination of those programmes in an integrated approach (para. 3).

Not applicable.

Stresses the importance of a clear description of respective roles of peacekeeping missions and all other relevant actors (para. 6).

Not applicable.

Stresses the need for strengthened cooperation and coordination between the various actors within and outside the United Nations-system to ensure effective use of resources and coherence on the ground in implementing disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes (para. 5).

Not applicable.

*Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General**Action taken to implement decisions and requests*

Provide clear information on resource requirements for disarmament, demobilization and reinsertion and associated post and non-post costs (para. 6).

Not applicable.

Submission of integrated disarmament, demobilization and reintegration standards to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session (para. 8).

Not applicable.

Section VII: quick-impact projects

Streamline the process of implementation of quick-impact projects and ensure that they are fully implemented within the planned time frames.

The implementation of quick-impact has been severely hampered by developments in the Mission area and the lack of personnel to administer and coordinate humanitarian projects.

Section VIII: training, recruitment and staff in the field

Decides to restrict training away from mission headquarters of civilian staff to training specific to the implementation of the mandate of the mission, the effective functioning of the mission, the function of a post or, where it is cost-effective, until the finalization of the comprehensive training strategy (para. 1).

UNMEE is promoting train-the-trainer courses in order that staff attending any courses can, on return to the Mission, train other staff, thereby reducing the number of external workshops required. Where possible, trainers/vendors are invited to deliver the training in the Mission to reduce the cost of travel. Online training is also being encouraged.

Ensure that the training strategy includes the training needs of national staff for the purpose of capacity-building in the mission area (para. 3).

National staff have access to all in-house training courses, which include ongoing information technology and language training. Additionally, they have free access to all courses offered by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and online training.

Ensure that staff in all United Nations peacekeeping operations have access to relevant training opportunities (para. 4).

Implemented.

Requests the Secretary-General to make greater use of national staff (para. 5).

UNMEE undertook a staffing assessment during the 2004/05 period, which resulted in 2 international General Service posts being converted to national General Service posts. A second assessment was conducted in July 2005; however, further posts were not converted at that time owing to a number of factors, including the recent abolishment of 14 Field Service and international General Service posts, lack of technical expertise, political sensitivity and confidentiality issues and managerial requirements.

*Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General**Action taken to implement decisions and requests*

To report on the progress towards reaching an overall target of no more than 5 per cent of authorized General Service/Field Service posts across missions to be filled by staff on assignment from Headquarters (para. 6).

UNMEE has provided the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with data regarding the Mission's international General Service posts and staff. The Mission is awaiting further instruction and guidelines from the Personnel Management and Support Service on how to proceed with this issue.

Affirms that locally recruited mission staff may be recruited as international staff only through the normal recruitment process in which they compete for international posts in another mission along with other external candidates (para. 7).

Implemented.

Ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, with due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations (para. 8).

UNMEE, in coordination with the Personnel Management and Support Service, is attempting to ensure that this requirement is met through a transparent and competitive recruitment process.

Revert to the General Assembly for its consideration of the creation of a post if the function is ongoing and is so warranted, regarding the practice of hiring individual contractors or individuals on procurement contracts to perform functions of a continuing nature (para. 11).

This practice was discontinued in the Mission effective 14 November 2005. The operational needs for various services will be met through outsourcing to local companies.

Section XI: participation of United Nations Volunteers

Volunteers should not be used as a substitute for staff to be recruited against authorized posts for the implementation of mandated programmes and activities and should not be sought for financial reasons (para. 3).

Implemented.

Volunteers are subject to the same obligations and responsibilities, including standards of conduct, that the United Nations staff are subject to (para. 5).

Implemented.

Section XVI: procurement

All peacekeeping missions should operate with reference to their procurement plans in order to realize the benefits offered by proper procurement planning (para. 5).

The Procurement Section issues a procurement plan in line with the Mission's acquisition plan. All sections are required to procure their equipment, spare parts and supplies according to the Mission's procurement plan.

Continue to monitor and address causes of excessive procurement lead times at peacekeeping mission (para. 6).

The Procurement Section monitors the Mission's procurement activities in order to identify and correct the causes of excessive lead times in a timely manner.

Section XVII: asset management

The Department of Peacekeeping Operations should ensure that all missions implement an assets replacement programme in a cost-effective manner and in strict compliance with the guidelines on the life expectancy of assets (para. 1).

The heads of the peacekeeping operations should take effective measures to ensure inventory control, replenishment of stocks and reasonable write-off procedures for the disposal of assets no longer required or useful (para. 2).

Ensure that formal written agreements are in place, which include elements such as financial reimbursement and liability, with other United Nations bodies before loaning out to them resources belonging to the peacekeeping operation (para. 3).

The ongoing efforts to increase cooperation between missions, particularly those in the same region, should be commended. Any agreement on the loan or sharing of mission assets should be clearly understood and documented by the missions involved, bearing in mind that individual operations should remain responsible for preparing and overseeing their own budgets as well as for controlling their own assets and logistical operations (para. 4).

Section XIX: air operations

All necessary actions are taken to ensure that staff members involved in air operations are adequately trained, as specified in the Air Operations Manual (para. 1).

Aviation quality inspections and aviation assessments should continue to be conducted at missions to confirm that established standards are being fully complied with (para. 2).

The Mission strictly adheres to the guidelines on the life expectancy of assets, which are replaced only after the expiration of their useful lifetime.

The Mission takes all necessary steps to ensure that assets are controlled through its verification process and follow-up as well as the cost centres' maintenance of their own inventory. The replenishment of stocks is monitored in line with the budget and the yearly procurement plan for the cost centres. The Mission follows the disposal procedures as directed by the guidelines and has a separate disposal unit.

Local efforts to identify a mechanism to charge agencies for the provision of services and equipment have been unsuccessful. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations has advised the Mission that a global standardized mechanism to charge for such services and equipment is being prepared for formal distribution and implementation.

UNMEE remains responsible for preparing and overseeing its own budget and controlling its own assets and logistical operations.

UNMEE air operations has been implementing the job training syllabus of the Air Transport Section, Logistics Support Division, since 2004/05 for new air operations staff joining UNMEE. The yearly training requirement is reflected in the yearly budget.

UNMEE aviation safety quality procedures are fully compliant with the safety requirements of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

*Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General**Action taken to implement decisions and requests*

The formulation of resource requirements for air operations in budget submissions should be improved to make them more reflective of actual operations, bearing in mind the overbudgeting of air transportation requirements in some peacekeeping operations (para. 3).

The UNMEE air operations allotment for the 2006/07 budget preparation was based on the current (August 2005) prices and on the aircraft usage for the period 2004/05.

Section XXI: ratios of vehicles and information technology to staff

Peacekeeping operations should adhere to the standard ratios, bearing in mind the mandate, complexities and size of individual peacekeeping operations (para. 2).

UNMEE is maintaining the standard ratio, namely Mission senior management (D-1 and above) 1:1; international civilian substantive personnel, 2:5; international civilian personnel in Integrated Support Services, 2:5; international civilian personnel in Office of the Chief Administrative Services, 4:5; United Nations Volunteers, 4:5; military observers and Security Officers, 2:5; headquarters military staff officers, 4:5.

All missions should ensure that the actual ratio of heavy/medium vehicles is not greater than the established standard ratio of 1:1 and to justify any departure from this standard ratio (para. 3).

The Mission is in adherence to a 1:1 ratio of heavy/medium vehicles.

Apply greater economies in the provision of 4x4 vehicles for civilian staff in missions, in particular but not limited to senior staff at the D-1 level and above, bearing in mind that the existing ratio for 4x4 vehicles must not be exceeded, and to report on the implementation thereof to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session in the context of the overview report (para. 5).

The majority of 4x4 vehicles are assigned to civilian staff, military observers, headquarters military staff officers and Mission senior management (D-1 and above).

Reduce progressively the allocation of one printer per work station and to implement, with immediate effect, where it is cost-effective and feasible, the ratio of printers to desktop computers of 1:4 for all work stations in peacekeeping missions, at Headquarters and in the field (para. 6).

UNMEE is progressively reducing the number of printers to improve its ratio in the 2005/06 and 2006/07 fiscal years, bringing the total number from 518 to 322 by end of the 2006/07 period. An administrative circular from the Chief Administrative Officer was issued on this subject to support the Information Technology Unit with its withdrawal and write-off plan.

*Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General**Action taken to implement decisions and requests*

Defer consideration of new provisions for desktop computers, printers and laptops at Headquarters and in the field with the exception of new missions and those missions undergoing expansion according to Security Council mandates as well as for replacement purposes in strict compliance with the General Assembly resolution, pending the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the comprehensive management audit to review the practices of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, mentioned in section IV, paragraph 4, of resolution 59/296 (para. 7).

UNMEE is in compliance with resolution 59/296 on the issue. New provisions for desktop computers, printers and laptops substantially decreased in the 2005/06 period, reducing the total holdings of all the above categories of equipment. No provision for notebook or desktop computers has been made for 2006/07.

Section XXII: rations contracts

Ensure that all missions monitor and evaluate the quality management systems of rations contractors to ensure that food quality and hygienic conditions are in accordance with established standards (para. 2).

UNMEE has implemented quality management systems on different levels to ensure that food quality and hygienic conditions are in accordance with established standards.

Undertake a cost-benefit analysis on the use of an independent inspection mechanism to verify the fulfilment by contractors and vendors of all contract specifications regarding quality, hygiene and delivery plans (para. 3).

An internal inspection mechanism has been implemented in the Mission.

B. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

(A/59/736/Add.10)

*Request/recommendation**Action taken to implement request/recommendation*

The Advisory Committee notes that the discontinuation of the executive jet was predicated on the anticipated approval of direct flights between Asmara and Addis Ababa. Since the approval has not materialized, the Committee does not object to the continued use of the jet for the time being (para. 33).

The Mission and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations have reviewed the air asset requirements, and no provision has been made for the executive jet in the proposed budget.

The Committee expects that the Mission's collection of data from all components hereafter will lead to additional improvements in establishing a baseline that will facilitate better comparisons in future (para. 8).

UNMEE data collection for the performance period 2004/05 will be used as an indicator for the level of activities, which in turn will be used as the baseline for preparation of the 2006/07 results-based budgeting frameworks. Any deviations will be appropriately justified.

*Request/recommendation**Action taken to implement request/recommendation*

The support component of the presentation incorporates service indicators that enable measurement of management improvements (see A/59/616, component 3, planned outputs). There is, however, room for further enhancement, particularly in those cases in which the indicators of achievement appear to be beyond the control of the Mission or where other agencies of the system have the main responsibility and the Mission just oversees or monitors those activities. Such constraints, if any, could be reflected in the external factors. The Committee also believes that the human resources element of components should be further refined in order to avoid repetition of outputs (para. 9).

Although the Committee is of the opinion that it is good for experienced staff to be mobile and to be available to meet the requirements of new missions, the situation should be monitored in order to avoid disruption in the Mission's activities. Measures should be taken to find ways to retain required experienced staff (para. 20).

The Advisory Committee was informed that the Secretary-General sent a letter to the President of Eritrea on 5 November 2004, in which he raised three issues of particular importance relating to the daily operations of UNMEE:

(a) Direct flights between Asmara and Addis Ababa;

Recommendation noted. UNMEE will improve the formulation of external factors by highlighting the conditions that are beyond the control of the Mission but may influence the success or failure of the activity. The outputs related to inter-agency coordination would clearly indicate the agencies involved and the role of UNMEE.

The situation is being monitored. The Mission's decision not to fill the 61 non-critical posts earmarked for downsizing contributed to the 21.7 per cent vacancy rate in the period ended 30 June 2005. Every effort is normally made not to release staff until replacements are on board in order to ensure that operational exigencies are met, while at the same time giving due consideration to see that each individual's opportunities are not compromised. Continued efforts are also being made to provide the Mission's staff with incentives that fall within the established United Nations guidelines, such as training opportunities and a commissary. Nevertheless, since UNMEE is a non-family duty station and social life and international flight availability are limited, the Mission has some difficulties in retaining experienced staff.

Continued efforts are being made to overcome those restrictions that carry financial and operational burdens for UNMEE.

The direct flight passage between Asmara and Addis Ababa has not yet been established despite the following efforts to resolve the issue:

(a) A response to the Secretary-General's letter of 5 November 2004 to the President of Eritrea on this issue is still awaited;

*Request/recommendation**Action taken to implement request/recommendation*

	(b) Correspondence was carried on and a series of meetings was held between UNMEE and Ethiopian authorities on the issue of direct flights. However, they did not yield a positive outcome owing mainly to the absence of one party or the other considered to be key players in resolving this issue.
(b) Cooperation to find alternative premises for UNMEE headquarters for security reasons;	Despite ongoing efforts by the Mission, there has been no progress on the identification of a suitable site for the relocation of the UNMEE Asmara headquarters.
(c) The reopening of the road from Asmara to Keren, via Barentu. The Advisory Committee is of the opinion that these operational impediments, which have serious financial and security implications for the everyday functioning of the Mission, should continue to be addressed at the highest level [see Security Council resolution 1586 (2005)] (paras. 25 and 26). The Committee is of the opinion that additional savings may be achieved in connection with information technology requirements as the quantity of equipment that the Mission had planned to purchase is further adjusted, taking into account the continuing downsizing of the exercise (para. 40). The Committee is of the opinion that uniform procedures regarding reimbursement from partners should be established. In the meantime, the Mission should exercise prudence and monitor the costs (para. 43).	Regarding the road from Asmara to Keren via Barentu, it is still closed to UNMEE vehicular traffic. It was temporarily opened in September 2004 (13-19) as a gesture of goodwill when the new Force Commander assumed his function. The road was again opened in January 2005 to facilitate the rotation of the Jordanian battalion, with the indication from the authorities that the road would always be opened for rotation exercises. It is important to note that the road has never been closed to UNMEE contractors transporting goods for the Mission. UNMEE confirms that acquisition of information technology equipment has been reduced by 470 units in line with the downsizing exercise. As a result, only replacement equipment of 106 desktop computers, 2 laptops, 24 printers and 5 servers was purchased. Additionally, it has been decided not to replace any desktops or laptops during the proposed budget period. Recommendation noted. UNMEE will continue to monitor the support provided to the other United Nations agencies and the cost involved. The receiving agencies will be asked to reimburse the cost once the uniform procedure for that purpose is established.

C. Board of Auditors

(A/59/5 (vol. II))

Request/recommendation

Action taken to implement request/recommendation

The Board again noted long-outstanding accounts receivable at active missions (UNMEE, MINURSO, UNMISSET, UNOMIG and UNDOF) ... The Board recommends that the Administration continue to take steps to ensure that missions improve the management of long-standing accounts receivable and review its systems to ensure the accurate ageing of accounts receivable (paras. 66 and 68).

Although bank reconciliations were, in general, adequately prepared and used, some exceptions were noted ... Long-outstanding reconciling items were noted in the bank reconciliations of UNMEE. The Board recommends that the Administration ensure that proper bank and cash management processes are in place (paras. 70 (c) and 71).

For April and June 2004, UNMEE reported payments made for 223 nights at the hotel corresponding to the highest mission subsistence allowance rate, while a less expensive, similar class hotel was available. The cost was an additional 25 per cent over the basic cost of \$36,572 at the latter hotel. The Board is of the view that, beyond the actual costs in monetary terms, such a practice raises an issue of accountability at the certifying officer level. The Board recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations strictly enforce compliance with the administrative instructions relating to the payment of allowances at special rates (paras. 243-244).

UNMEE has been following up on long-outstanding amounts. Account receivables from troop-contributing countries have been forwarded to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to address the issue of outstanding amounts due with the respective permanent missions in New York.

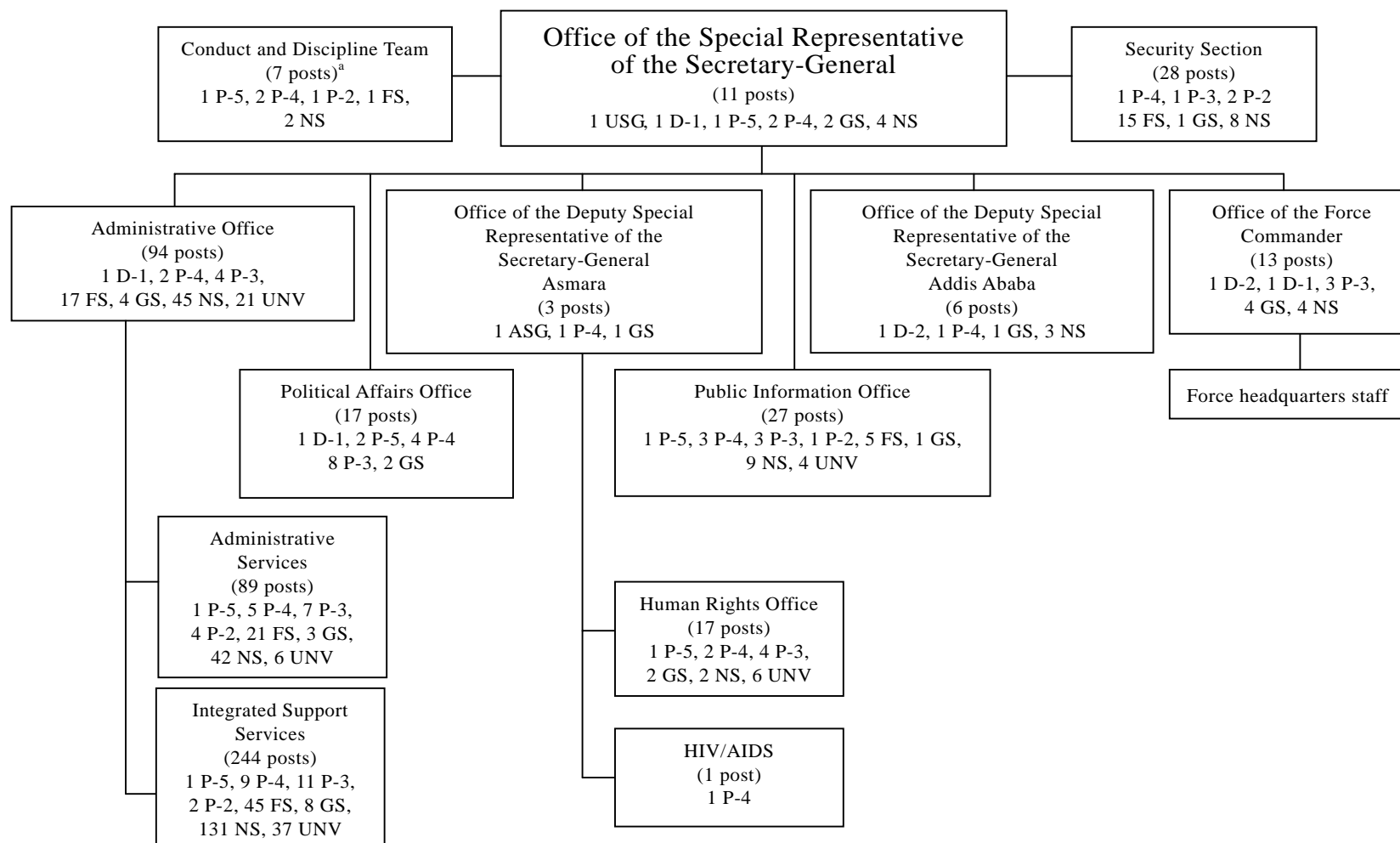
Those amounts have been reconciled, and now the processing time for bank reconciliations and unreconciled amounts is approximately one to two months after the close of the period under reconciliation.

Efforts are being made to discourage staff members from staying in special-rate hotels.

To address this critical audit observation, the UNMEE Security Section conducted an assessment of hotels in the two capital cities of the Mission. As a result, a few hotels were identified which were not only suitable for accommodation but also satisfactory from a security point of view for the temporary accommodation of UNMEE personnel. On 23 May 2005 the Chief Administrative Officer issued a circular to UNMEE personnel conveying this information.

Organization charts*

A. United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea



* *Abbreviations:* USG, Under-Secretary-General; ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; FS, Field Service; GS, General Service; NS, national staff; UNV, United Nations Volunteers.

^a Funded through general temporary assistance.

