



General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 November 2020

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session

Agenda item 141

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Part II

Political affairs

Section 3

Political affairs

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

Ninth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2021

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General in respect of the proposed resource requirements for 2021 for the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.7](#)). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee received additional information and clarification from the representatives of the Secretary-General, concluding with written responses dated 20 November 2020.

2. The Secretary-General, in addendum 1 to section 3, Political affairs, of his report on the proposed programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.1](#)), provides an overview of the proposed resource requirements for 2021 for 39 special political missions and related cross-cutting issues. Detailed information in respect of each special political mission is contained in five addenda to section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.2](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.3](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.4](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.5](#) and [A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.6](#)). The addenda cover the specific requirements for thematic clusters I to III and for the two largest missions, namely, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). The



Advisory Committee's comments and recommendations of a cross-cutting nature pertaining to all special political missions are contained in its main report ([A/75/7/Add.2](#)), while its comments and recommendations on budget proposals for thematic clusters I to III, UNAMA and UNAMI are covered in its related reports ([A/75/7/Add.3](#), [A/75/7/Add.4](#), [A/75/7/Add.5](#), [A/75/7/Add.6](#) and [A/75/7/Add.7](#)). The Secretary-General also indicates that he will present to the General Assembly separate proposals for any additional requirements emanating from additional mandates or changes in mandates ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.1](#), para. 3).

3. In its first report on the proposed programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/7](#), chap. I, sect. A), the Advisory Committee made comments and recommendations on the budget methodology, format and presentation, which also apply to the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions.

II. Resources authorized for 2020 and proposed resources for 2021

A. Mandate and planning assumptions

4. By its resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), the Security Council established UNITAMS for an initial period of 12 months, with the following mandate: (a) to assist in the political transition, progress towards democratic governance, the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustainable peace; (b) to support peace processes and the implementation of future peace agreements; (c) to assist in peacebuilding, civilian protection and the rule of law, in particular in Darfur and the Two Areas; and (d) to support the mobilization of economic and development assistance and the coordination of humanitarian assistance ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.7](#), paras. 2–3).

5. It is indicated in the report of the Secretary-General that UNITAMS will provide good offices and mediation and technical support; engage with relevant stakeholders and institutions; support the strengthening of institutions to deliver justice and accountability; coordinate the civilian protection and peacebuilding activities of the United Nations; and support international resource mobilization and national socioeconomic reforms and the establishment of a national architecture for development planning and aid effectiveness (*ibid.*, paras. 10–12). The planning assumptions are set out in paragraph 13 of the report.

6. With regard to coordination and partnerships, it is stated in the report that a senior-level coordination mechanism will be established to ensure a continued political partnership between the African Union and the United Nations. UNITAMS will also seek to strengthen the coordination with other regional organizations, including the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, as well as Member States and international financial institutions. UNITAMS and the United Nations country team will operate in a complementary and integrated manner, aligning sequencing, coordination and the implementation of priority programmes during the transitional period. Close coordination with the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) will allow for the eventual transition from UNAMID to UNITAMS in Darfur, and coordination mechanisms are being developed in close coordination between UNITAMS and UNAMID, with the support of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations (*ibid.*, paras. 15–17).

7. UNITAMS has established its headquarters in Khartoum, in the immediate vicinity of the Khartoum Liaison Office of UNAMID, and is planning to open three regional offices, in El Fasher, Kadugli and Kassala, with satellite offices for each regional presence. The liaison presences will be closely integrated with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes present in these locations, taking advantage of their security and local administrative arrangements (*ibid.*, para. 37).

B. Information on resources for 2020 and 2021

8. For 2020, it is indicated in the report that the Secretary-General, through the authority granted to him by the General Assembly in its resolution 74/265 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for 2020, provided an initial funding for UNITAMS in the total amount of \$933,300 for the period from 20 July to 30 September 2020 in order to support the establishment of the Mission. The authorized resources provided for the establishment of 31 temporary positions, which comprised the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the advance team, as well as a backstopping position in New York. The Advisory Committee subsequently authorized the Secretary-General, under the terms of resolution 74/265, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$1,818,600 (gross) (\$1,702,100, net of staff assessment) to meet the resource requirements of UNITAMS for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2020. The authorized resources provided for the establishment of 60 temporary positions for a three-month period, which comprise 56 positions deployed to Khartoum and 4 backstopping positions at Headquarters in New York (ibid., paras. 31–32).

9. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that expenditures from 20 July to 31 October 2020 amounted to \$106,300, while projected expenditures up to 31 December 2020 amounted to \$2,635,400. The Committee was also informed that the budget proposal for 2021 did not take into account existing or potential limitations related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). **The Advisory Committee trusts that updated expenditure information will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.**

10. The proposed resource requirements for 2021 for UNITAMS amount to \$34,327,300 (net of staff assessment). The Advisory Committee was provided with a table (see table 1) showing a comparison between the resources authorized for 2020 and the proposed resources for 2021.

Table 1
Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of expenditure	2020	2021		Variance
	Resources authorized to cover unforeseen and extraordinary expenses ^a	Total requirements	Non-recurrent requirements	2020 vs. 2021 Increase/(decrease)
Category of expenditure	1	2	3	(4) = (2) – (1)
I. Military and police personnel			–	
1. Military observers	–	–	–	–
2. Military contingents	–	–	–	–
3. United Nations police				
Mission subsistence allowance	–	521.2	–	521.2
Travel on emplacement, rotation and repatriation	–	21.0	–	21.0
Clothing allowance	–	2.1	–	2.1
Death and disability compensation	–	–	–	–
Rations	–	1.8	–	1.8
Subtotal, line 3	–	546.1	–	546.1
4. Formed police units	–	–	–	–
Total, group I	–	546.1	–	546.1

	2020	2021		Variance
	Resources authorized to cover unforeseen and extraordinary expenses ^a	Total requirements	Non-recurrent requirements	2020 vs. 2021 Increase/(decrease)
Category of expenditure	1	2	3	(4) = (2) – (1)
II. Civilian personnel				
5. International staff				
International staff salaries	867.9	7 833.2	–	6 965.3
Common staff costs	904.7	6 679.5	–	5 774.8
Danger pay	–	217.6	–	217.6
Overtime	–	–	–	–
Other costs	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, line 5	1 772.6	14 730.3	–	12 957.7
6. National staff				
National staff salaries	18.5	1 790.3	–	1 771.8
Common staff costs	6.1	590.6	–	584.5
Danger pay	–	97.1	–	97.1
Overtime	–	–	–	–
Other costs	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, line 6	24.6	2 478.0	–	2 453.4
7. United Nations Volunteers				
United Nations Volunteers	12.1	410.3	–	398.2
Subtotal, line 7	12.1	410.3	–	398.2
8. General temporary assistance	–	–	–	–
9. Government-provided personnel	–	–	–	–
Total, group II	1 809.3	17 618.6	–	15 809.3
III. Operational costs				
10. Experts	–	–	–	–
11. Consultants and consulting services	–	–	–	–
Individual consultants	–	330.6	–	330.6
Consulting services	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, line 11	–	330.6	–	330.6
12. Official travel				
Official travel, non-training	321.9	508.9	–	187.0
Official travel, training	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, line 12	321.9	508.9	–	187.0
13. Facilities and infrastructure				
Acquisition of engineering supplies	–	–	–	–
Acquisition of prefabricated facilities, accommodation and refrigeration equipment	–	–	–	–
Acquisition of generators and electrical equipment	–	–	–	–

	2020	2021		Variance
	Resources authorized to cover unforeseen and extraordinary expenses ^a	Total requirements	Non-recurrent requirements	2020 vs. 2021 Increase/(decrease)
Category of expenditure	1	2	3	(4) = (2) – (1)
Acquisition of water treatment and fuel distribution equipment	–	–	–	–
Acquisition of furniture	15.0	–	–	(15.0)
Acquisition of office and other equipment	–	–	–	–
Acquisition of safety and security equipment	2.0	–	–	(2.0)
Rental of premises	43.0	201.6	–	158.6
Rental of office equipment and other equipment	–	–	–	–
Utilities and waste disposal services	5.0	60.0	–	55.0
Maintenance services	10.0	13.4	–	3.4
Security services	16.0	347.1	–	331.1
Construction, alteration, renovation and major maintenance	15.0	150.0	–	135.0
Stationery and office supplies	9.0	14.0	–	5.0
Spare parts and supplies	–	120.0	–	120.0
Construction material and field defence supplies	2.0	–	–	(2.0)
Petrol, oil and lubricants	15.0	289.2	–	274.2
Sanitation and cleaning materials	–	50.6	–	50.6
Subtotal, line 13	132.0	1 245.9	–	1 113.9
14. Ground transportation				
Acquisition of vehicles	–	–	–	–
Acquisition of vehicle workshop equipment	–	–	–	–
Rental of vehicles	–	25.0	–	25.0
Repairs and maintenance	15.0	6.5	–	(8.5)
Liability insurance	–	3.4	–	3.4
Spare parts	–	79.0	–	79.0
Petrol, oil and lubricants	7.5	23.3	–	15.8
Subtotal, line 14	22.5	137.2	–	114.7
15. Air operations				
Equipment and supplies	–	–	–	–
Services	49.5	316.9	–	267.4
Landing fees and ground handling charges	–	75.0	–	75.0
Air crew subsistence allowance	–	10.8	–	10.8
Petrol, oil and lubricants	–	1 069.5	–	1 069.5
<i>Fixed-wing</i>				
Rental and operation	–	1 907.4	–	1 907.4
<i>Helicopters</i>				
Rental and operation	–	3 602.1	–	3 602.1
Liability insurance	–	12.7	–	12.7
Spare parts	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, line 15	49.5	6 994.4	–	6 944.9

	2020	2021		Variance
	Resources authorized to cover unforeseen and extraordinary expenses ^a	Total requirements	Non-recurrent requirements	2020 vs. 2021 Increase/(decrease)
Category of expenditure	1	2	3	(4) = (2) – (1)
16. Marine operations	–	–	–	–
17. Communications and information technology				
Communications and information technology equipment	50.0	564.6	564.6	514.6
Telecommunications and network services	–	741.0	–	741.0
Maintenance of communications and information technology equipment and support services	20.0	614.4	–	594.4
Spare parts	–	98.0	–	98.0
Rental of equipment	–	–	–	–
Software, licences and fees	15.0	82.2	–	67.2
Public information and publication services	–	202.8	–	202.8
Subtotal, line 17	85.0	2 303.0	564.6	2 218.0
18. Medical				
Acquisition of equipment	–	–	–	–
Medical services	70.0	232.8	–	162.8
Rental of equipment	–	–	–	–
Supplies	–	115.6	–	115.6
Subtotal, line 18	70.0	348.4	–	278.4
19. Special equipment	–	–	–	–
20. Other supplies, services and equipment				
Welfare	–	20.4	–	20.4
Mine detection and mine-clearing services	–	1 909.1	–	1 909.1
Mine detection and mine-clearing supplies	–	–	–	–
Operational maps	–	–	–	–
Training fees, supplies and services	–	105.6	–	105.6
Official functions	1.0	–	–	(1.0)
Other hospitality	–	12.0	–	12.0
General insurance	–	15.0	–	15.0
Bank charges	–	200.0	–	200.0
Claims/write-offs/adjustments	–	10.0	–	10.0
Other freight and related costs	10.4	379.3	–	368.9
Rations, other	–	23.1	–	23.1
Loss on exchange	–	–	–	–
Individual contractual services	69.8	222.7	–	152.9
Implementing partners and grants	–	1 005.0	–	1 005.0
Other services	64.0	392.0	–	328.0
Subtotal, line 20	145.2	4 294.2	–	4 149.0

	2020	2021		Variance
	Resources authorized to cover unforeseen and extraordinary expenses ^a	Total requirements	Non-recurrent requirements	2020 vs. 2021 Increase/(decrease)
Category of expenditure	1	2	3	(4) = (2) – (1)
21. Quick-impact projects	–	–	–	–
Total, group III	826.1	16 162.6	564.6	15 336.5
Net requirements (net of staff assessment)	2 635.4	34 327.3	564.6	31 691.9

^a On 27 July 2020, the Secretary-General, through the authority granted to him by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 74/265, provided initial funding related to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses in the total amount of \$933,300 (net of staff assessment) for the period from 20 July to 30 September 2020. On 30 September, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions authorized the Secretary-General, under the terms of resolution 74/265, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed \$1,818,600 (gross) (\$1,702,100, net of staff assessment) to meet the resource requirements of the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2020.

C. Proposed resource requirements for 2021

11. As shown in table 1, the proposed resources for UNITAMS for 2021 amount to \$34,327,300 (net of staff assessment), comprising \$546,100 for military and police personnel, \$17,618,600 for civilian personnel and \$16,162,600 for operational costs.

1. Military and police personnel

12. It is indicated in the report that the proposed resource requirements of \$546,100 would provide for 21 individual police officers to be deployed to Khartoum, El Fasher, Zalingei and Nyala. The individual police officers would be responsible for assisting, advising and supporting the capacity of the Government of the Sudan to extend State presence and inclusive civilian governance, in particular through strengthening accountable rule of law and security sector institutions and building trust between State authorities and local communities (A/75/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.7, para. 35). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the proposal of the Secretary-General for military and police personnel for 2021 for UNITAMS.**

2. Civilian personnel

Table 2
Staffing requirements

	Professional and higher categories									General Service and related categories		Total inter-national	National staff			United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG	ASG	D-2	D-1	P-5	P-4	P-3	P-2	Subtotal	Field/ Security Service	General Service		National Professional Officer	Local level			
Approved 2020	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Proposed 2021	1	1 ^a	2	4	18	31	29	3	89	51	1	141	48	69		11	269
Change	1	1	2	4	18	31	29	3	89	51	1	141	48	69		11	269

Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

^a The position of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator) (Assistant Secretary-General) is funded at 50 per cent.

13. It is indicated in the report that the civilian component will consist of 258 staff members and 11 United Nations Volunteers. A total of 183 positions will be deployed in Khartoum; 45 in the El-Fasher regional office and the liaison offices in Zalingei and Nyala; 24 in the Kadugli regional office and liaison offices in Kauda and El Damazin; 13 in the Kassala regional office and liaison office in Port Sudan; and 4 backstopping positions in New York. It is proposed that a 50 per cent vacancy rate be applied during 2021 for all categories of mission personnel (*ibid.*, paras. 36, 46 and 48).

14. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with information showing the status of recruitment of the 60 positions approved under the commitment authority for the period up to 31 December 2020. The Committee was informed that 29 selections had been completed as at 11 November 2020, including some onboarding that was pending, with 7 temporary job openings under review for selection recommendations and 1 temporary job opening closed on 2 November. Others are in different phases of recruitment, and the positions of Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator) are yet to be appointed. **The Advisory Committee trusts that updated information on the recruitment status will be provided to the General Assembly during the consideration of the present report. The Committee also trusts that all vacant positions will be filled expeditiously and that the recruitment process will be conducted in accordance with the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.**

15. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include systematically in the context of future proposed programme budgets, a detailed breakdown, with the status of incumbency, of all positions at the D-1 and higher levels funded through extrabudgetary resources, including those authorized by the Committee and those established by the Secretary-General.**

16. Upon enquiry with respect to Arabic fluency requirements in the recruitment of staff, the Advisory Committee was informed that, of the advertised job openings, 1 position had a requirement for Arabic fluency (Senior Public Information Officer (P-5)), 20 reflected Arabic language as a desirable quality and 4 did not reflect Arabic language requirements. Nineteen selected candidates were non-Arabic speakers and six were Arabic speakers. The Committee was also informed that posting on Inspira would be complemented by outreach efforts to target internal and external job seekers with Arabic language skills. **The Advisory Committee notes that Arabic is a language for UNITAMS and emphasizes the importance of recruiting staff with the requisite language skills for the effective performance of their functions, which will reduce the expenses related to translation and interpretation.**

17. **The Advisory Committee recalls that, further to General Assembly resolutions 61/276 and 66/264, the Assembly, in its resolution 74/263, requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the nationalization of positions, whenever appropriate, as well as to build local capacity within the special political missions and to report thereon in the context of future budget submissions (see also A/75/7/Add.2, para. 53).**

18. **The Advisory Committee also reiterates its recommendation that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to make stronger efforts to improve gender balance and equitable geographical representation in special political missions (see also A/75/7/Add.2, para. 60).**

19. With respect to the four backstopping positions, the Advisory Committee notes that selection and onboarding has been completed for one position, while selection is in progress for another. **The Advisory Committee reiterates that the existing backstopping positions at Headquarters should be reviewed annually in order to**

analyse the workload, identify potential efficiencies and realign the capacities when changes in the mandates of the missions occur. The Committee trusts that consolidated information on all backstopping positions for the special political missions at Headquarters will be provided in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions (see also [A/75/7/Add.2](#), para. 48).

20. The Advisory Committee notes from information provided to it that the proposed resources under civilian personnel include danger pay in the amount of \$217,600 for international staff and \$97,100 for national staff. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the proposed requirements covered 32 international staff and up to 21 national staff for a period of up to one month. For international staff, the amount is currently set at \$1,600 per month, while for locally recruited staff the amount is set at \$637 per month.

21. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the proposals of the Secretary-General for civilian personnel for 2021 for UNITAMS.**

3. Operational costs

22. The proposed resources for operational costs for UNITAMS for 2021 amount to \$16,162,600, comprising costs for consultants and consulting services (\$330,600), official travel (\$508,900), facilities and infrastructure (\$1,245,900), ground transportation (\$137,200), air operations (\$6,994,400), communications and information technology (\$2,303,000), medical (\$348,400), and other supplies, services and equipment (\$4,294,200) ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.7](#), para. 45).

Consultants and consulting services

23. Proposed resources for 2021 for consultants and consulting services amount to \$330,600. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that this would include highly specialized and targeted capacity in the form of seasoned international professionals on politically sensitive assignments, with knowledge and experience from similar undertakings in other countries, and that no such expertise existed within the Mission or at Headquarters. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that such functions should be undertaken by staff of the Mission and considers that recruitment should be conducted to ensure that mission personnel possess such knowledge and expertise. The Committee reiterates that the use of consultants should be kept to an absolute minimum and that core activities should be performed by in-house capacity ([A/74/7/Add.6](#), para. 18).** The Committee therefore recommends a reduction of 15 per cent, or \$49,600, in the proposed resources for consultants.

Official travel

24. Under official travel, resource requirements for 2021 are proposed in the amount to \$508,900. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with a list of planned official travel in 2021, including trips for conferences, meetings and workshops. **The Advisory Committee reiterates that more use should be made of virtual meetings and online training tools and that travel for workshops, conferences or meetings should be kept to a minimum and, if proposed, detailed justifications should be provided. The Committee also considers that the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to continue to have an impact on travel in 2021 ([A/75/7/Add.2](#), para. 30).** The Committee therefore recommends a reduction of 15 per cent, or \$76,300, under official travel.

Communications and information technology

25. The amount of \$2,303,000 is proposed for communications and information technology for 2021. As at 31 October 2020, no expenditure had been recorded under this category. **The Advisory Committee recalls its previous recommendation that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide consolidated resources for communications and information technology for special political missions, along with detailed justifications, in his next main report in respect of special political missions (ibid., para. 36). Taking into account the level of expenditure and the need for a consolidated presentation of communications and information technology resources, the Committee recommends a reduction of 5 per cent, or \$115,200, under communications and information technology.**

Other supplies, services and equipment

26. Proposed resources for 2021 for other supplies, services and equipment amount to \$4,294,200, including the amount of \$105,600 for training fees, supplies and services. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the amount had been calculated on the basis of a rate of \$400 per person per year for 264 civilian personnel based in the Sudan, although detailed training plans were still in development. **Noting that the Mission is still at the start-up phase and training plans have not yet been confirmed, the Advisory Committee is not fully convinced that the proposal is justified and recommends a reduction of 15 per cent, or \$15,800, to the proposed resources for training fees, supplies and services.**

27. **Subject to its recommendations in paragraphs 23 to 26 above, the Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for operational costs.**

D. Other matters*Cost-recovery arrangements with the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur*

28. It is indicated in the report that the regional office of UNITAMS in El Fasher will have satellite offices in Zalingei and Nyala, temporarily using UNAMID facilities on a cost-recovery basis. During the planned period, the Mission will be reliant on UNAMID for support for its facilities in El Fasher and is expected to receive surplus assets from UNAMID, in order to keep acquisition requirements to a minimum (A/75/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.7, paras. 38–40). Upon enquiry with respect to the cost recovery of transferred assets, the Advisory Committee was informed that assets in good condition would be transferred at net book value from UNAMID, with any related shipping costs reimbursed to UNAMID, estimated at a total cost of \$250,000 in the budget proposal. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that an option for a full cost-recovery arrangement for the transfer of assets should be evaluated.** The Committee makes further comments and observations in its report on the budget for UNAMID for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Programmatic activities

29. It is stated in the report that UNITAMS will undertake programmatic activities in the total amount of \$1.0 million, which is intended as a bridging measure, giving time for the United Nations country team to make the transition from predominantly humanitarian programming to a broader mix of humanitarian, peacebuilding and development activities (ibid., paras. 16 and 44). Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that financing for United Nations peacebuilding activities

in the Sudan was eventually foreseen to be undertaken through a multi-partner trust fund under the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator). Given that the fund will take some months to operationalize and capitalize through resource mobilization, the programmatic activities would provide seed and catalytic support for United Nations peacebuilding activities. **The Advisory Committee trusts that lessons learned and best practices will be taken into account during the transition period and that the next budget submission will provide detailed information regarding the implementation of programmatic activities, including on the implementing partners and utilization of resources.**

Demining

30. It is indicated in the report that the Mission will conduct demining activities, at a total cost of \$1.9 million, which would provide for technical support to the National Mine Action Centre of the Sudan and for advocacy and advice on the development of mine action initiatives in areas controlled by non-State armed groups (*ibid.*, para. 43). Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that responsibility for mine action in Darfur lay with the Government of the Sudan, with support from the United Nations country team and UNITAMS. The proposed budget for UNITAMS envisages the implementation of the mine action mandate with support from the Mine Action Service and United Nations Office for Project Services. Mine action activities in Darfur under the 2019/20 UNAMID budget were conducted at a cost of \$7,200,000. **The Advisory Committee trusts that a detailed demining plan will be provided in the context of the next budget submission for UNITAMS.**
