



General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 April 2023

Original: English

Seventy-seventh session

Agenda item 156

Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization

Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 for the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Appropriation for 2021/22	\$1,042,728,900
Expenditure for 2021/22	\$1,018,856,400
Unencumbered balance for 2021/22	\$23,875,500
Appropriation for 2022/23	\$1,030,269,900
Projected expenditure for 2022/23 ^a	\$1,030,269,900
Projected underexpenditure for 2022/23	\$0
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General for 2023/24	\$1,078,212,400
Adjustment recommended by the Advisory Committee for 2023/24	\$5,459,200
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee for 2023/24	\$1,072,753,200

^a Estimates as at 31 March 2023.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 9 May 2023.



I. Introduction

1. During its consideration of the reports on the financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) ([A/77/609](#) and [A/77/745](#)), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions met in person and online with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 10 April 2023. The comments and recommendations of the Committee on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations are contained in its report thereon ([A/77/767](#)) and those pertaining to the findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 can be found in its related report ([A/77/802](#)).

II. Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

2. By its resolution [75/300](#), the General Assembly appropriated an amount of \$1,042,728,900 gross (\$1,015,496,200 net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. Expenditure for the period totalled \$1,018,856,400 gross (\$992,057,500 net) for a budget implementation rate of 97.7 per cent. The resulting unencumbered balance of \$23,872,500 in gross terms represents 2.3 per cent of the overall level of resources approved for the financial period.

3. The unencumbered balance of \$23,872,500 of the overall level of resources approved for 2021/22 reflects lower-than-budgeted expenditure under military and police personnel costs (\$25,324,500, or 4.8 per cent) and civilian personnel (\$5,024,500, or 1.0 per cent), offset in part by higher requirements under operations personnel (\$6,476,500, or 2.5 per cent). Summary information on the redeployment (\$7,468,700, or 1.4 per cent) from group I to group III is provided in section III.B of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 ([A/77/609](#)). A detailed analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the report of the Secretary-General.

4. In the context of unliquidated obligations, the Mission had liabilities in the amount of \$155,629,500 as at 30 June 2021 and the level had reached \$158,272,400 as at 30 June 2022. **The Advisory Committee notes the increase in the level of unliquidated obligations by \$2,642,900, or 1.7 per cent, for 2021/22, compared with the 2020/21 financial period.** The Advisory Committee makes further observations on unliquidated obligations in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#)).

5. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the interest loss for peacekeeping amounted to \$1.6 million in the 2021/22 period. This was due to the rise in longer-term interest rates which began during the reporting period. This increase in interest rates meant a decline in the market value of a number of longer-dated securities in the investment pool. A decline in the market value of securities is recorded as an unrealized loss for financial statement reporting purposes. Unrealized gains and losses on securities are based on market prices on the last business day of the financial year and are distributed proportionately to all cash pool participants. The portion of MONUSCO of the loss under investment revenue was \$583,200.

6. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that in June 2022, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) had required borrowings to cover the expenses of the Mission owing to inadequate cash operating reserves. UNMISS

had borrowings of \$40.0 million from MONUSCO at the end of June 2022. In its resolution [76/272](#) of 29 June 2022, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue the practice of the management of the cash resources of the active peacekeeping missions as a pool on a trial period for another five years. In the same resolution, the Assembly endorsed the report of the Committee ([A/76/7/Add.29](#)), including the proposal to use the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund as a first-choice liquidity mechanism up to the level of \$110 million while preserving \$40 million as a reserve for new and expanding missions. In July 2022, the borrowing of \$40.0 million by UNMISS was therefore transferred from MONUSCO to the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund.

7. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that with regard to official travel expenditures, a total of 93 per cent of relocation claims for personnel who had been in Goma during the volcanic eruption were completed and paid in the 2020/21 period. The remaining 7 per cent of the claims were processed in the 2021/22 period, as they required a more extensive verification process. The claims concerned national staff members who were needed to perform critical functions and had to stay in Goma while their dependants were relocated. Before processing the payments, the Mission needed to seek further clarification from United Nations Headquarters on whether or not the staff should be paid for their dependants and to secure verification by the Human Resources Section of the Mission of the recognized dependants. By the time the clarifications were received and the lists of dependants finalized, the budget period had already closed. The expenditures were therefore recorded in the 2021/22 period.

Matters pertaining to the report of the Board of Auditors

8. In considering the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of MONUSCO, the Advisory Committee had before it the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2022. In its report, the Board noted the expenditure trend, liquidity situation and related financial risks of the Mission ([A/77/5 \(Vol. II\)](#), chap. II, paras. 32, 98, 135, 138, 150, 153, 177 and 335, and chap. IV, paras. 35, 41, 61, 139 and 220). **The Advisory Committee concurs with the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and trusts that the recommendations will be implemented in a timely manner.**

III. Information on performance for the current period

9. With respect to current and projected expenditure for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 31 March 2023, the total expenditure amounted to \$875,782,300. At the end of the current period, the total expenditure was estimated at \$1,030,269,900, with a projected unencumbered balance of \$0, or 0.0 per cent.

10. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 31 December 2022, claims for the reimbursement of troop costs had been settled up to September 2022, leaving an outstanding balance of \$57,796,000. Contingent-owned equipment had been certified and paid up to 30 September 2022, leaving an outstanding balance of \$37,718,500 as at 31 December 2022. With regard to death and disability compensation, as at 31 January 2022, an amount of \$9,289,400 had been paid to settle 340 death and disability claims since the inception of MONUSCO; 28 claims were pending. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the outstanding claims will be settled expeditiously.**

11. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 27 February 2023, a total of \$24,785,120,700 had been assessed on Member States in respect of MONUSCO since its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to \$24,143,648,000, resulting in an outstanding balance of \$641,472,700. The Committee was also informed that, as at 27 February 2023, the cash available to the Mission amounted to \$126,732,000, which is insufficient to cover the three-month operating reserve of \$164,214,900 (excluding reimbursements to troop- and police-contributing countries). **The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly has repeatedly urged all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations, on time, in full and without conditions.**

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

A. Mandate and planning assumptions

12. The mandate of MONUSCO was established by the Security Council in its resolution [1925 \(2010\)](#) and extended most recently by the Council until 20 December 2023 in its resolution [2666 \(2022\)](#). The planning assumptions and mission support initiatives for 2023/24 are summarized in section I.B of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 ([A/77/745](#)).

B. Resource requirements

13. The total resource requirements in an amount of \$1,078,212,400 requested for the 2023/24 period represent an increase of \$47,942,500, or 4.7 per cent, compared with the provision of \$1,030,269,900 approved for the 2022/23 period (see the table below).

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	Apportionment (2021/22)	Expenditure (2021/22)	Apportionment (2022/23)	Expenditure 31 March 2023	Cost estimates (2023/24)	Variance	
						Amount	Percentage
Military and police personnel	522 261.7	496 937.2	510 727.8	490 100.0	538 643.3	27 915.5	5.5
Civilian personnel	265 262.5	260 238.0	268 766.8	187 725.6	258 229.4	(10 537.4)	(3.9)
Operational costs	255 204.7	261 681.2	250 775.3	197 956.7	281 339.7	30 564.4	12.2
Gross requirements	1 042 728.9	1 018 856.4	1 030 269.9	875 782.3	1 078 212.4	47 942.5	4.7

Note: Detailed information on the financial resources proposed and an analysis of variances are provided in sections II and III, respectively, of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget ([A/77/745](#)).

14. The increase in total resource requirements is attributable primarily to higher requirements under military and police personnel and operational costs, which are partially offset by reduced requirements for civilian personnel resources. Information on variances between the apportionment for 2022/23 and the proposed resources for 2023/24 is presented in section III of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget for the Mission.

1. Military and police personnel

Category	Authorized 2022/23 ^a	Actual as at 30 June 2022	Authorized 2022/23 ^a	Actual as at as 31 March 2023	Authorized ^a and proposed 2023/24	Variance
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)=(5)-(3)
Military observers	660	492	660	497	660	–
Military contingent personnel	13 640/13 140 ^b	12 835	13 140/13 500 ^c	12 465	13 500	360
United Nations police	591	438	591	355	591	–
Formed police unit personnel	1 410	1 228	1 410	1 222	1 410	–

^a Represents the highest level of authorized strength.

^b The level of authorized strength was revised by the Security Council in its resolution [2612 \(2021\)](#) of 20 December 2021.

^c The level of authorized strength was revised by the Security Council in its resolution [2666 \(2022\)](#) of 20 December 2022.

15. The proposed resources for military and police personnel for 2023/24 reflect an increase of \$27,915,500, or 5.5 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2022/23. The proposed increase is attributable mainly to (a) an increase in the daily cost of rations from \$5.62 per person per day in the 2022/23 period to \$8.17 per person per day in the 2023/24 period; (b) the application in the 2023/24 period of a higher rate of reimbursement, \$1,448 per person per month (an increase from \$1,428), and the reimbursement of an amount of \$4.9 per person per month for costs related to mandatory predeployment coronavirus disease (COVID-19) testing, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution [76/276](#); and (c) the cost of emplacement, rations and contingent-owned equipment related to the deployment of 180 additional formed police personnel in support of five existing units, which would include 45 persons deployed in Goma, 45 in Bunia, 50 in Beni and 40 in Bukavu ([A/77/745](#), paras. 173–179).

Delayed deployment

16. The table below provides a summary of the delayed deployment factors for military and police personnel for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 periods, as well as those proposed for the 2023/24 period. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that there are not any known delays anticipated for the monthly deployment of military contingents and formed police units, which reflects the proposed delayed deployment factors of 4.7 per cent and 0.0 per cent, respectively. **The Committee trusts that updated information will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.**

Delayed deployment factors

Category	Actual 2021/22	Approved 2022/23	Actual as at 31 December 2022	Actual average as at 31 December 2022	Actual as at 31 March 2023	Actual average as at 31 March 2023	Proposed 2023/24
Military and police personnel							
Military observers	25.0	23.0	25.6	25.0	24.7	25.0	23.0
Military contingents	6.5	2.1	9.8	4.1	5.1	5.9	4.7
United Nations police	30.3	26.4	37.6	30.6	39.9	34.7	30.6
Formed police units	12.7	12.8	13.3	12.8	13.3	13.0	0.0

17. **The Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for military and police personnel.**

2. Civilian personnel

Category	Approved 2021/22	Encumbered as at 30 June 2022	Approved 2022/23	Encumbered as at 31 March 2023	Proposed 2023/24	Variance
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)=(5)-(3)
Posts						
International staff	697	622	687	607	670	(17)
National Professional Officers	193	179	190	172	200	10
National General Service staff	1 460	1 368	1 407	1 323	1 408	1
General temporary assistance						
International staff	4	3	5	3	5	–
National Professional Officers	10	7	10	7	11	1
National General Service staff	46	45	46	44	46	–
United Nations Volunteers						
International	313	297	307	290	292	(15)
National	14	14	15	15	32	17
Government-provided personnel	90	51	90	43	90	–
Total	2 827	2 586	2 757	2 504	2 754	(3)

18. The proposed resources for civilian personnel for 2023/24 reflect a decrease of \$10,537,400, or 3.9 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2022/23. The reduction is due mainly to decreased requirements under international staff (\$8,277,300) resulting from the application of a lower common staff costs rate of 84.1 per cent based on expenditure trends, compared with a rate of 91.3 per cent applied in the approved budget for the 2022/23 period, and decreased requirements under general temporary assistance (\$934,400) due to the cessation of the Mission's share of allocated costs for provision of that assistance related to the support activities for Umoja supply chain implementation ([A/77/745](#), paras. 180–185).

Recommendations on posts and positions

19. The Secretary-General proposes a total of 2,754 civilian posts and positions for 2023/24 reflecting (a) the establishment of a new Security Sector Reform Section, including 3 new posts (1 Principal Security Sector Reform Adviser (D-1), 1 Security Sector Reform Officer (P-4) and 1 Security Sector Reform Officer (P-3)), 1 post of Security Sector Reform Officer (National Professional Officer), 2 positions of Security Sector Reform Officer (1 international United Nations Volunteer and 1 national United Nations Volunteer) and redeployment of 1 post of Security Sector Reform Officer (P-5) from the Political Affairs Division, (see [A/77/745](#), paras. 113–122); (b) the establishment of 1 general temporary assistance position of Legal Officer (P-3) in the Office of Legal Affairs (*ibid.*, para. 69); (c) the establishment of one position of Victims' Rights Officer (international United Nations Volunteer) in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (*ibid.*, para. 68); (d) the conversion of 12 posts in the Professional category (1 funded under general temporary assistance) and 21 positions (5 Field Service and 16 international United Nations Volunteer) into corresponding national service positions; and (e) the abolition of 11 posts and positions, including 4 posts (1 Coordination Officer (Stabilization Support Section) (P-4), 1 Child Protection Officer (P-3), 1 Judicial Affairs Officer (P-3) and 1 Civil Affairs Officer (P-3)), 1 post of Associate Judicial Affairs Officer (National Professional Officer), 1 post of Associate Security Coordination Officer (National Professional Officer), 4 positions (national General Service) (1 Team Assistant

(Centralized Warehouse Section), 1 Programme Management Assistant (Justice Support Section) and 2 Field Security Guard) and 1 position of Associate Civil Affairs Officer (international United Nations Volunteer).

20. With respect to the proposed establishment of the new Security Sector Reform Section, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Security Council, in its resolution [2666 \(2022\)](#), had elevated the support to security sector reform to the level of a priority task, emphasizing the provision of good offices and strategic and technical advice to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while calling on the Mission to play a key role in coordinating the support provided by international and bilateral partners and the United Nations system. **The Advisory Committee concurs with the proposed establishment of the Security Sector Reform Section. However, the Committee notes that security sector reform has been a part of the mandate of MONUSCO. The Committee looks forward to receiving updated information in future budget submissions on how the Mission can leverage existing capacities to meet its mandate.**

21. With respect to the proposed establishment of one position of Legal Officer (P-3), under general temporary assistance, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that in the first quarter of 2021, the provider of United Nations health-care insurance in the Democratic Republic of the Congo had detected a significant number of suspected medical insurance fraud cases, implicating up to 188 MONUSCO staff members. In order to assist the Health and Life Insurance Section and the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) in the investigation of these cases, it is proposed that a general temporary assistance position of Legal Officer (P-3), based in Nairobi, be established. A temporary position within existing approved resources was approved by the Controller as an exceptional measure to support the investigation and the position has been encumbered since September 2021. The continued need for this position is based on the fact that work on the medical insurance fraud cases will continue through the 2023/24 period. OIOS has confirmed that approximately 100 cases of MONUSCO staff remain to be referred to the Office of Human Resources. **The Advisory Committee urges the Mission and relevant departments at United Nations Headquarters to prioritize using existing resources to address the current backlog of pending fraud cases. The Committee trusts that updated information on the outstanding case counts and financial recovery efforts will be provided in the next budget report.**

22. With respect to the proposed establishment of one position of Victims' Rights Officer (international United Nations Volunteer), the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that there are 670 victims of sexual exploitation and abuse who have sought support and assistance and 143 children born of sexual exploitation and abuse that are currently assisted in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is proposed to establish one position of Victims' Rights Officer (international United Nations Volunteer) to assist the Senior Victims' Rights Officer and ensure adequate coverage of the work of providing assistance to victims throughout the year and ensure that all victims are kept informed in a timely manner. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Mission will seek greater collaboration to leverage the resources available among various entities within the Mission such as the offices of the Force Commander, the Police Commissioner, Conduct and Discipline, Child Protection, Gender Affairs and Civil Affairs and the Office of Internal Oversight Services investigations as well as the United Nations country team, in addition to the Victims' Rights Office, to address the needs of victims in a more efficient and holistic manner (see also [A/77/831](#), para. 10). The Committee therefore recommends against the proposed establishment of a position of Victims' Rights Officer (international United Nations Volunteer).**

23. With respect to the proposed conversion of 33 posts and positions (conversion of 12 posts in the international Professional category to posts of National Professional Officer and conversion of 5 Field Service positions to national General Service positions and 16 international United Nations Volunteer positions to national United Nations Volunteer positions, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the actions were in line with the Mission's joint transition plan and nationalization strategy. In order to build the capacities of national personnel, it is therefore proposed that the 33 posts and positions be nationalized. Upon enquiry, the Committee was also informed that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is expecting to have a disarmament, demobilization and community recovery and stabilization programme that is fully operational in 2023. The Mission's own disarmament and demobilization section is expected to be fully engaged with supporting the planning and implementation of disarmament and demobilization activities which would include reinsertion projects through community violence reduction programming. The Committee trusts that updated information on cooperation and national capacity-building for disarmament and demobilization activities will be provided in future reports. **The Advisory Committee welcomes the nationalization of posts and positions and reiterates the importance of building national capacity, especially in view of the transition and drawdown of the Mission. The Committee trusts that MONUSCO will continue to make further efforts to explore the use of national staff, including national United Nations Volunteers, in its operations. The Committee trusts that an update on the efforts and progress to be made in nationalization will be provided in the context of the next budget submission (see A/75/822/Add.6, para. 47, and A/74/737/Add.12, para. 15).**

24. In his report on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations, the Secretary-General indicates that the Office of Programme Planning, Finance and Budget provided policy guidance to improve the accuracy and consistency of the vacancy factors applied in the proposed budgets for the 2023/24 period and to ensure that proposed vacancy rates were based, as much as possible, on actual rates (A/77/779, para. 254). The table below provides a summary of the vacancy rates for civilian personnel during the 2021/22 and 2022/23 periods, as well as those proposed for the 2023/24 period.

Vacancy rates

(Percentage)

Category	Budgeted 2021/22	Actual 2021/22	Budgeted 2022/23	Actual as at 31 December 2022	Actual average January– December 2022	Actual as at 31 March 2023	Actual average as at 31 March 2023	Proposed 2023/24 ^a
Civilian personnel								
International staff	11.5	11.9	11.5	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.4	11.5
National staff								
National Professional Officers	10.6	7.3	6.0	9.5	8.3	9.5	8.9	8.3
National General Service staff	4.6	5.7	4.6	6.9	6.4	6.0	6.3	6.4
General temporary assistance								
International staff	16.7	25.0	16.7	20.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	20.0
National Professional Officers	25.0	30.0	25.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
National General Service staff	0.7	2.2	0.7	6.5	2.2	4.3	4.3	2.2

Category	Budgeted 2021/22	Actual 2021/22	Budgeted 2022/23	Actual as at 31 December 2022	Actual average January– December 2022	Actual as at 31 March 2023	Actual average as at 31 March 2023	Proposed 2023/24 ^a
United Nations Volunteers								
International United Nations Volunteers	2.7	6.4	5.0	7.2	6.1	5.5	6.5	6.1
National United Nations Volunteers	9.1	21.4	9.1	0.0	13.3	0.0	6.7	0.0
Government-provided personnel	38.9	38.9	38.9	43.3	43.3	52.2	46.7	35.6

^a The assumptions considered for the vacancy factors include the current 12-month average vacancy rate, from January to December 2022, and the actual vacancy rate as at 31 December 2022 ([A/77/745](#), para. 141).

25. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the higher vacancy rates for national staff reflect guidance from the Field Operations Finance Division to improve the accuracy and consistency of the vacancy rate factors applied in the proposed budgets for the 2023/24 period so as to ensure that the proposed vacancy rates are based, as much as possible, on actual rates. The guidance provided for the proposed vacancy factors include the current 12-month average vacancy rate, from January to December 2022, and the actual vacancy rate as of 31 December 2022. The Committee notes that the proposed vacancy rate for international staff, including under general temporary assistance, national United Nations Volunteers and Government-provided personnel, differ from the actual average for the past 12 months. The Committee also notes that proposed rates differ slightly from the average vacancy rates experienced during the current 2022/23 period, as at 31 March 2023, for National Professional Officers, general temporary assistance-funded international staff, national United Nations Volunteers and Government-provided personnel. **The Advisory Committee recalls that guidance was provided to improve the vacancy rates and it is of the view that proposed vacancy rates should be based on actual rates (see also [A/75/822/Add.5](#), para. 20, and [A/74/737/Add.1](#), para. 16). The Committee considers that updated information should be provided to the General Assembly at the time of the consideration of the present report and clear justification should be systematically presented in future proposed budget and related documents, including realistic projected recruitment and potential upcoming vacancies, to the extent possible.** The Committee discusses vacancy rates in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#)).

Vacant posts

26. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the mission had 206 vacant posts as of 31 March 2023, of which 14 posts had been vacant for over two years (2 Field Service, 3 National Professional officer and 9 national General Service). All of the 14 posts were at various stages of recruitment and none are proposed for abolishment. Furthermore, 26 staff members were in receipt of special post allowances beyond 31 March 2023. The Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that with regard to the modality of recruitment from rosters, managers are often not confident that the candidates on the roster will meet their specific requirements and prefer to opt for post-specific job openings. Furthermore, some of the rosters are outdated and the candidates may have been promoted or are no longer interested in positions at the levels for which they applied. Moreover, some positions have poor or depleted roster membership and are held by few women. Given the evolving dynamics of the Mission, there are occasions where different skill sets, which cannot necessarily be found among the rostered candidates, may be required. **The Advisory Committee trusts that all vacant posts will be filled expeditiously.**

United Nations Volunteers

27. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that use of United Nations Volunteers in entities of the United Nations Secretariat is based on the global memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and the United Nations Volunteers programme dated 11 September 2018. United Nations Volunteers provide operational and substantive support to entities in various areas, including human rights, electoral processes, community development, information and communications technology, administration and logistics, health and humanitarian relief, as well as perform specialized functions for which the required skills and expertise are not available in the Organization. There are five different United Nations Volunteer categories: United Nations expert, United Nations specialist, United Nations youth volunteer, United Nations community volunteer and online volunteer. United Nations Volunteers (except online volunteers) serve under contracts issued by the United Nations Volunteers programme and contracts are governed by the Unified Conditions of Service for United Nations Volunteers. United Nations Volunteers may not be used for core posts involving significant administrative and financial functions requiring delegation of authority and approval or certification of functions or the supervision of staff. United Nations Volunteers may not be used as substitutes for staff or recruited to fill authorized staff posts for the implementation of mandated programmes and activities or for financial reasons. The annex to the present report provides a location-based listing of all positions of United Nations Volunteer funded by peace operations and the support account for peacekeeping operations.

28. Subject to its recommendations in paragraph 22 above, the Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for civilian personnel. Any related operational costs should be adjusted accordingly.

3. Operational costs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	Apportionment (2021/22)	Expenditure (2021/22)	Apportionment (2022/23)	Expenditure as at 31 March 2023	Cost estimates (2023/24)	Variance	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Amount (6)=(5)-(3)	Percentage (7)=(6)÷(3)
Operational costs							
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants and consulting services	625.8	250.2	584.8	452.5	608.1	23.3	4.0
Official travel	4 090.5	4 385.7	4 558.3	2 965.5	4 897.2	338.9	7.4
Facilities and infrastructure	43 185.1	57 661.2	45 609.7	48 246.5	56 753.1	11 143.4	24.4
Ground transportation	9 391.9	17 407.3	10 579.9	11 091.0	9 234.4	(1 345.5)	(12.7)
Air operations	108 221.5	95 745.6	99 676.1	57 314.1	118 841.6	19 165.5	19.2
Marine operations	701.5	1 264.0	690.0	986.7	910.0	220.0	31.9
Communications and information technology	40 593.1	40 533.2	39 824.6	35 614.3	41 248.9	1 424.3	3.6
Medical	2 308.8	2 208.1	2 237.4	1 161.8	1 973.5	(263.9)	(11.8)
Special equipment	—	—	—	—	—	—	(100.0)
Other supplies, services and equipment	44 586.5	40 845.9	45 764.5	39 290.9	45 622.9	(141.6)	(0.3)
Quick-impact projects	1 500.0	1 380.0	1 250.0	833.4	1 250.0	—	—
Total	255 204.7	261 681.2	250 775.3	197 956.7	281 339.7	30 564.4	12.2

29. The proposed resources for operational costs for the 2023/24 period represent a net increase of \$30,564,400, or 12.2 per cent, compared with the resources approved for the 2022/23 period. The proposed net increase for 2023/24 reflects lower requirements for other supplies, service and equipment, ground transportation and medical, offset in part by proposed increases under all other object classes (see also [A/77/745](#), sects. II–III).

30. **The Advisory Committee is not fully convinced that the justifications provided support some of the requirements listed below and makes the following observations and recommendations:**

(a) *Consultants and consulting services.* The proposed resources amount to \$608,100 for 2023/24, while expenditure amounted to \$250,200 for 2021/22 and \$452,500 as at 31 March 2023. **In view of the underexpenditure in 2021/22, including the implementation level during the downsizing and transition of MONUSCO, the Advisory Committee, recommends a reduction of 15 per cent (\$91,200) to the proposed resources for consultants and consulting services;**

(b) *Petrol, oil and lubricants.* The Advisory Committee notes, from supplementary information provided, that a total amount of \$35,911,265 is budgeted across three budget classes, reflecting an increase of \$8,476,365, due mainly to higher average prices compared with the prices applied in the approved budget for 2022/23, as follows: (i) \$1.236 per litre of diesel fuel, under facilities and infrastructure, compared with \$0.860 per litre, and \$1.165 per litre for kerosene, compared with \$0.838 per litre; (ii) \$1.236 per litre of diesel fuel for vehicles, under ground transportation, compared with \$0.860 per litre; (iii) \$1.139 per litre of aviation fuel, under air operations, compared with \$0.830 per litre. The Committee also notes that as regards the three budget classes, the increases for 2023/24 are as follows: (i) the amount of \$11,342,651 reflects an increase of \$2,821,901, or 33.1 per cent, compared with 2022/23, under facilities and infrastructure, with a decrease of 210,120 litres; (ii) the amount of \$5,642,149 reflects an increase of \$1,499,900, or 36.2 per cent, compared with 2022/23, under ground transportation, with no change in litres; and (iii) the amount of \$18,926,465 reflects an increase of \$4,154,564, or 28.1 per cent, compared with 2022/23, under air operations, with no change in litres. The Committee further discusses the impact of fuel prices and the related budgeting in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#));

(c) *Facilities and infrastructure.* A provision of \$56,753,100 is proposed for 2023/24, representing an increase of \$11,143,400, or 24.4 per cent, as compared with the approved level of \$45,609,700 for 2022/23. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the increased requirements under facilities and infrastructure are due mainly to (i) the inclusion of a provision for the payment of claims to troop- and police-contributing countries for ammunition expended by their contingents and units while conducting military and police exercises in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (\$1,620,000); (ii) the acquisition and installation of 570 security cameras to protect MONUSCO personnel and premises in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the increasingly volatile security environment (\$3,733,500); and (iii) a higher average price of fuel for diesel and kerosene in the 2023/24 period (\$2,821,900). **Taking into account the ongoing downsizing and transition of MONUSCO, the Advisory Committee considers that further efficiencies can be considered and recommends a reduction of 5 per cent (\$2,270,500) to the proposed resources of \$45,410,400, under facilities and infrastructure (excluding the proposed provision of \$11,342,700 for petrol, oil and lubricants);**

(d) *Communications and information technology.* The proposed resources amount to \$41,248,900 for 2023/24, while expenditure amounted to \$40,533,200 for

2021/22 and \$35,614,300 as at 31 March 2023. **In view of the underexpenditure in the current period and the need to identify further efficiencies, the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of 20 per cent (\$226,200) to the proposed increase in resources for communication and information technology (excluding the provision for public information and publication services);**

(e) *Air operations.* A provision of \$118,841,600 is proposed for 2023/24, representing an increase of \$19,165,500, or 19.2 per cent, as compared with the approved level of \$99,676,100 for 2022/23. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the increased requirements are due to (i) higher fixed costs for civilian utility helicopters (\$12,269,700) and fixed-wing aircraft, based on market prices (\$443,100); (ii) a higher average price of jet fuel in the 2023/24 period (\$4,188,000); and (iii) the establishment of a new contract for airport handling services (\$2,013,200). Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that prior to the 2020/21 period, MONUSCO had operated airport handling services through a combination of military air support units, commercial contracts and in-house personnel. During the 2020/21 period, the Mission had decided to repatriate the military air support units and opted to cover the services provided by the units in a fragmented manner through multiple commercial contracts. To streamline services, the Mission conducted a solicitation for a single contract that covers all airport handling services, which resulted in a new contract with a net increase of \$1.3 million. The Committee discusses issues of air operations in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#));

(f) *Unmanned aerial systems.* The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that, during the 2021/22 period, the unmanned aerial system vendor had provided the services in accordance with the requirements in the signed commercial contract. From an operational point of view, the unmanned aerial system suffered from various technical limitations, including technical issues associated with the aircraft, the non-availability of the crew (that is to say, the pilot in command), streaming link issues, an accident during take-off and a crash due to engine issues; and operational challenges, including the frequent inclemency of the weather over the operational area. Where these limitations and challenges affected the fully operational capability status, relevant financial penalties were applied in accordance with the contract. In accordance with the current contract, there are two conditions for financial penalties:

- Loss of fully operational capability status. The portion of the base annual charges that the operator shall be entitled to invoice and be paid each day of such failure shall be reduced by 50 per cent
- Failure to meet the annual reliability threshold of 95 per cent. The United Nations shall be entitled to a proportionate offset credit against both the basic annual charges and the supplementary annual charges, to be paid in respect of each contract year in which the reliability threshold is not met

The Committee was further informed, upon enquiry, that the current contract with the vendor expires in January 2024 and that the solicitation process for a replacement contract has been initiated. The new airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance definition of requirement is being refined as a result of an analysis of the Mission's current and future planned activities. The Secretariat conducts competitive solicitation exercises through the request for proposal modality for the procurement of unmanned aerial systems and has gained significant experience with unmanned aerial system acquisitions in support of MONUSCO, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) (where a request for proposal process is ongoing) over

the past 10 years. To ensure adequate performance of the systems, the Secretariat introduced a contractual mechanism that translates the performance and compliance of the system directly into financial impact. Such a mechanism addresses the following: (i) the availability of the system with regard to the operation request, (ii) the case of the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance requirement, where key performance indicators have been introduced to evaluate the intelligence analysis part of the requirement, (iii) the compliance of the system with respect to fulfilling its contractual obligations and (iv) liquidated damages. Examples of lessons learned from the employment and operations of unmanned aerial systems are:

- Requiring a specific set of rules and regulations in the areas of the regulatory framework, based on international aviation standards and best practices
- Tailoring training based on role specific needs for personnel from different areas of management and governance processes
- Tailoring safety and quality assurance systems and diversifying roles and responsibilities based on the involvement of different entities in managing, governing and operating unmanned aerial systems

The report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of MONUSCO for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 indicates that, during the performance period of 2021/22, the Mission suffered from the non-availability of the unmanned aerial systems owing to a lack of full operational capability and delays in mobilization of a new service provider ([A/77/609](#), para. 82). The Advisory Committee notes the supplementary information on deployment of unmanned aerial systems in MONUSCO where the 2023/24 proposed resources amount to \$11,369,700, which provides for the continuation of three commercial systems from the current period. The planned expenditures for the 2022/23 period amount to \$11,089,900 and the increase of \$279,800, or 2.5 per cent, in the 2023/24 period is due to the demobilization and mobilization costs related to a new contract for the unmanned aerial systems. Current expenditures for 2022/23 as of March 2023 amount to \$9,790,269. **The Advisory Committee recalls its previous concerns about the management of unmanned aerial systems in the Mission (see [A/76/760/Add.4](#), para. 32, and [A/75/822/Add.6](#), para. 35) and trusts that further information will be provided to the General Assembly during the consideration of the present report and that an update on efforts to address these challenges will be included in the next budget report. Taking into consideration the above experiences with unmanned aerial system implementation, the Committee recommends a 5 per cent reduction (\$568,500) to the proposed resources for unmanned aerial systems under the air operations budget class.** The Committee further discusses unmanned aerial systems in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#));

(g) *Other supplies, services and equipment.* The proposed resources amount to \$45,622,900 for 2023/24, while expenditure amounted to \$40,845,900 for 2021/22 and \$39,290,900 as at 31 March 2023. **In view of the pattern of underexpenditure in 2021/22 and 2022/23, the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of 5 per cent (\$2,281,100) to the proposed resources for other supplies, services and equipment.**

31. Subject to its recommendations in paragraphs 27 and 29 above, the Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for operational costs.

V. Other matters

Mission transition

32. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Mission's field offices in Kasai and Central Kasai Provinces had been closed in June 2021 and in Tanganyika Province in June 2022. Provincial transition plans are being developed currently for Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu, and the minimum conditions to be met for those provinces are being considered as a dialogue continues between the Mission and the United Nations country team and provincial governments. Following the anti-MONUSCO sentiments which had peaked in July 2022, the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued a communiqué on 1 August 2022 providing information on the Government's intention to review the joint transition plan. Consultations between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations on the revision of the joint transition plan resumed in February 2023 following political engagements and are ongoing.

33. With regard to asset disposal practices, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the number of assets and pieces of equipment held in Kalemie at the beginning of the drawdown of the office totalled 1,604. Items which were in good condition and that were required for the Mission mandate to continue to be carried out were transferred to other Mission locations such as Uvira, Bukavu, Beni, Bunia and Goma. Items that were in good condition but were considered surplus were written off and disposed of through a fair market value or nominal sale to United Nations entities, funds and programmes, in accordance with applicable regulations and rules of the United Nations. Other assets were written off and sold commercially through a public auction. Most items, though serviceable, had passed their useful life and their transfer to other active Mission locations was uneconomical. They were therefore written off and gifted to government agencies. Some items were set aside for use by the residual staff remaining in Kalemie. A total of 271 items remained with the residual capacity in Kalemie. **In the light of lessons learned from recent closures of peace operations in Haiti and the Sudan, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Mission to provide a comprehensive asset disposal plan, along with mitigation measures against the loss of assets and anticipated donation requests, as part of the next budget submission.**

Support to national elections

34. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that in its resolution [2666 \(2022\)](#), the Security Council authorized MONUSCO to provide support for the 2023 electoral process in the three provinces where MONUSCO was still deployed. This would include limited logistic support without prejudice to the ability of MONUSCO to deliver on its priority tasks, as appropriate and in coordination with the Congolese authorities, the United Nations country team and regional and international actors, in order to facilitate a peaceful electoral cycle, in particular by engaging in a dialogue with the Independent National Electoral Commission. MONUSCO provides logistic support within existing resources for voter registration pursuant to the official request of the Government received on 20 December 2022, including (a) logistic support to the Electoral Commission by airlifting 50 tons of electoral material from Goma to Bunia and Beni; and (b) transportation of an additional 73 tons of material from Bunia and Bukavu to electoral sites in Ituri and South Kivu through a combination of road and helicopter movements. However, at the time the budget proposal was developed, such details were not yet made known or confirmed, which is still the case at present. **The Advisory Committee trusts that updated information will be provided to the General Assembly in time for its consideration of the report.**

Quick-impact projects

35. Information on quick-impact projects is provided in paragraphs 169 to 171 of the proposed budget for MONUSCO for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. The proposed resources of \$1,250,000 reflect the same level of resources approved for the 2022/23 period. As at 31 March 2023, total expenditure for 2022/23 amounted to \$833,400, against an apportionment of \$1,250,000. The apportionment for 2021/22 was \$1,500,000, with a total expenditure of \$1,380,000. **The Advisory Committee notes the pattern of underexpenditure for quick-impact projects and encourages the Mission to fully utilize its resources for the execution of quick-impact projects. The Committee is therefore of the view that quick-impact projects should be used as a key enabler for the Mission to build trust and cooperation with local communities. The Mission should seek to leverage those activities as part of the ongoing communication strategy to combat mis- and disinformation campaigns against the Mission (see paras. 36 and 37 below).** The Committee makes further observations on quick-impact projects in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#)).

Communications strategy

36. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that over the last two years, MONUSCO has built its capacity to address the negative impact of mis- and disinformation campaigns on the ability of the Mission to implement its mandate. Specific measures include the hiring of a crisis communications specialist and a digital specialist as well as 10 digital media consultants. An internal situation room, inclusive of all Mission components, has been created to ensure effective monitoring, analysis and content production to counter the impact of harmful misinformation campaigns, notably those that are created to harm the reputation of the Mission. Furthermore, MONUSCO continues to expand its digital footprint by capitalizing on the voice of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as the representative of the Mission. Moreover, the Mission is strengthening and creating impactful partnerships with expert non-governmental organizations on monitoring and analysis, as well as international and local journalists. Communication through Radio Okapi, social networks and community awareness-raising is essential to combat hate speech and promote social cohesion between communities. With an average of 24 million listeners, Radio Okapi, through its national coverage and its various editions in French and the four national languages, is an important tool for mitigating mis- and disinformation, including hate speech. Further mitigating measures include:

(a) Radio Okapi special programme on hate speech, which was started in February 2023, with a non-governmental organization that specializes in raising the level of content material through culture. The programme is entitled *C'est le ton qui fait la panique* (It's the tone that causes panic);

(b) Recruitment by Radio Okapi of a community manager to monitor and dispel mis- and disinformation and suggest a counter-narrative that provides factual information;

(c) A digital television platform to be launched by Radio Okapi to disseminate visual content on YouTube, Instagram and TikTok.

37. Throughout the year, the Mission conducts online campaigns in multimedia formats to respond to mis- and disinformation and hate speech. Training has been provided to the Mission's Public Information Officers and the Public Information Section's communication focal points on how to identify hate speech and develop

content that combats such speech. The same training has been extended to relevant stakeholders in the media in Kinshasa, Ituri, South Kivu and North Kivu. The Mission has trained parliamentarians on the use of social networks in the fight against hate speech and will continue to do so with relevant civil society stakeholders. Furthermore, the Mission has contracted a private firm to assist in the development of professional tools to build capacity on monitoring, analysis and response with respect to tackling hate speech and mis- and disinformation. The Committee provides further observations on strategic communication in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations ([A/77/767](#)).

Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse

38. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with tables 1 and 2 below which provide statistics on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse from 2018 to 2022.

Table 1

Allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse (2018–2022)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of cases	21	15	19	23	47

Table 2

Allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse (2018–2022) by category of personnel

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Military	17	12	13	14	40
Police	1	—	2	2	1
Civilian	3	3	4	7	6

39. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Mission has reinforced its internal and external communication strategy on the prevention of, and the reporting mechanisms for, sexual exploitation and abuse, through local radios, Radio Okapi, press conferences, screen savers and text messages in French and local languages. Furthermore, community awareness-raising activities are delivered through theatre and focus group discussions with community leaders and local organizations, especially targeting young people and those living in remote areas and in proximity to MONUSCO civilian and military camps. MONUSCO has reinforced its day and night patrols to enforce the Mission's curfew and out-of-bounds measures. The Mission conducts regular risk assessment visits to all locations where uniformed and civilian MONUSCO personnel are deployed. The Head of Mission holds regular meetings with the Mission leadership on sexual exploitation and abuse to review trends and develop responses. Commanders and managers are regularly reminded of their command responsibilities for preventing and reporting sexual exploitation and abuse. The Mission has expanded and strengthened its reporting mechanisms by training members of the community-based complaint network in 43 high-risk and remote locations in North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri provinces. The network has 1,063 members (665 men and 398 women).

40. In the aftermath of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse during the Ebola response, the United Nations strengthened its three-year inter-agency strategy on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and implemented a national action plan

on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. Among other projects, the national inter-agency network on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse was strengthened and five regional networks with coordinators for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse were established in the regions. There is a total of over 500 member organizations in the six networks combined, including focal points for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse from international non-governmental organizations, national non-governmental organizations, entities of the United Nations system, donors and government agencies. The World Health Organization has set up a fund to support victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and has engaged a psychologist to assist victims.

41. The assistance provided to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse includes not only medical and psychosocial support but also professional skills training in sewing, bakery, hairdressing, cooking and fabric dyeing. That assistance includes payment of school fees for children born of sexual exploitation and abuse. Over 400 women have benefited from such support and 113 children and adolescents attending school receive assistance for school kits and school fees which extends from the primary school to the university level. All forms of assistance mentioned in this paragraph come mainly from the United Nations trust fund in support of victims of sexual exploitation and abuse. During the period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2022, in the reported cases of sexual exploitation and abuse, 95 minors were represented and 35 paternity claims were made by minors. **The Advisory Committee trusts that MONUSCO will pursue further efforts to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation and enhance the accountability of perpetrators, while ensuring protection and support to victims, and that information thereon will be provided in future reports.** The Committee presents further observations and recommendations on the special measures for protection against sexual abuse and exploitation in its report (A/77/831), as well as in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/77/767).

Cooperation with the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda

42. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that MONUSCO and the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, have embarked on a review of the functions currently performed by MONUSCO that can gradually be transferred to the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe. For the 2023/24 period, the functions related to liaison with the Government of Uganda were transferred to the Regional Service Centre together with one post. Accordingly, an addendum to the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and the Government of Uganda was signed on 3 March 2023, whereby the function of official United Nations interlocutor/liaison for coordination between the United Nations and the Government of Uganda was transferred from MONUSCO to the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe. There is currently no specific plan for the transfer of other functions to the Regional Service Centre. Any further transition will be reflected in subsequent budget proposals for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe and MONUSCO in the context of the larger MONUSCO exit strategy and will be carried out in a gradual manner to ensure that the transfer of services takes into account the skills and capacities that exist within the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe. In addition, the Mission will continue to operate and maintain a presence in Entebbe during its withdrawal and until the end of its liquidation. The Regional Service Centre provides non-location dependent transactional financial and human resources services, along with other services, which are outlined in paragraphs 11 to 14 of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 (A/77/732). These services are detailed in a service-level agreement which separates the Mission's responsibilities from those of the Regional Service Centre within a clear governance framework and sets out key performance

indicators. The MONUSCO staff members located in Entebbe Support Base provide a range of support to MONUSCO and the tenants of the base, including logistics and supply chain support, engineering support and camp management for all premises and tenants on the premises. **The Advisory Committee trusts that information on any changes that may affect operations of MONUSCO and its use of the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, will be presented in future budget proposals, as appropriate.** The Committee makes further observations and recommendations on the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, in its report ([A/77/767/Add.5](#), where paras. 18, 46 and 47 are related to MONUSCO).

Environmental management

43. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that where feasible, the Mission is trying to connect all the camps that are close to existing hydropower grids. So far, the Mission has connected 18 camps to hydropower and is in the process of extending the hydropower connectivity to 7 additional camp sites in Beni and Bunia. The infrastructure installations have been completed and the connections to the grid are under way. The Mission plans to expand the hydropower connectivity to 15 additional camp sites within the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the 2023/24 period. Along the same lines, the Mission has been capitalizing on other sources of renewable energy, including solar power, to facilitate less reliance on generators. So far, the share of renewable energy amounts to 29 per cent of the overall energy used by the Mission given that there is no local power grid available at any of the military observers' team sites. **The Advisory Committee trusts that detailed information on the implementation of energy efficiency projects, including the impact on fuel consumption, will continue to be provided in future budget proposals.**

Individual contracted personnel

44. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Mission has made significant progress in reducing the number of individual contracted personnel. This has been the result of genuine efforts to eliminate redundancies, limit projects execution to only those of priority nature, introduce resource efficiencies and employ different mechanisms including through better use of in-house and outsourcing capabilities. Through these efforts, the Mission has been able to reduce the overall number of individual contracted personnel from nearly 2,000 in the 2014/15 period to almost 1,100 in the current period. Most of those individual contracted personnel are operating under engineering and infrastructure projects to augment in-house capacity. A large number of the individual contracted personnel serve as language assistants and in that capacity help peacekeepers navigate the local language in the areas where military units are deployed. According to the Mission, the use of individual contracted personnel contracted through the United Nations Office for Project Services is cost-effective, as their overall remuneration is lower than that of national staff, and allows for more flexibility, as most of their contracts are project-based and last for the duration of the assigned project. Further, individual contracted personnel are not location-based and can be moved easily from one location to another in the mission area. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Mission to provide comprehensive information on the roles and functions of all individual contracted personnel managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services, including details of administrative fee structures, comparative national staff compensation information, and compliance with existing policies on personnel administration including remuneration, to be presented for all peace operations in the next report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations.**

VI. Conclusion

45. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly with regard to the financing of MONUSCO for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 are indicated in section V of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of MONUSCO for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 ([A/77/609](#)). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of \$23,872,500 for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, and other revenue/adjustments amounting to \$20,913,600, from other/miscellaneous revenue (\$3,342,800) and the cancellation of prior-period obligations (\$18,154,000), offset by investment loss (\$583,200), be credited to Member States.**

46. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly with regard to the financing of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 are indicated in section IV of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget for MONUSCO for the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 ([A/77/745](#)). **Subject to its observations and recommendations above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the proposed resources be reduced by \$5,459,200, from \$1,078,212,400 to \$1,072,753,200. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly appropriate the amount of \$1,072,753,200 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.**

Annex

Number of positions of national and international United Nations Volunteer, by functions and mission and duty station

<i>Mission</i>	<i>Duty station</i>	<i>Substantive/ support functions</i>	<i>International/national</i>	<i>Number of United Nations Volunteers</i>
MINURSO	Laayoune	Support	International	12
MINUSCA	Bangui	Support	International	41
	Bangui ^a	Support	International	2
	Bangui	Support	National	29
	Bambari	Support	International	5
	Bambari ^a	Support	National	1
	Bangassou	Support	International	3
	Bangassou	Support	National	2
	Berberati	Support	International	5
	Berberati	Support	National	1
	Birao	Support	International	2
	Birao	Support	National	2
	Bossangoa	Support	International	5
	Bossangoa	Support	National	1
	Bouar	Support	International	3
	Bouar	Support	National	2
	Bria	Support	International	5
	Bria	Support	National	3
	Kaga-Bandoro	Support	International	6
	Kaga-Bandoro ^a	Support	International	2
	Kaga-Bandoro	Support	National	3
	Ndélé	Support	International	5
	Ndélé	Support	National	2
	Obo	Support	International	4
	Obo	Support	National	1
	Paoua	Support	International	4
	Paoua	Support	National	3
	Bangui	Substantive	International	44
	Bangui ^a	Substantive	International	4
	Bambari	Substantive	International	13
	Bangassou	Substantive	International	10
	Bangassou ^a	Substantive	International	1
	Berberati	Substantive	International	7
	Bimbo	Substantive	International	2
	Birao	Substantive	International	8
	Bossangoa	Substantive	International	8
	Bouar	Substantive	International	6

<i>Mission</i>	<i>Duty station</i>	<i>Substantive/ support functions</i>	<i>International/national</i>	<i>Number of United Nations Volunteers</i>
MONUSCO	Bria	Substantive	International	9
	Kaga-Bandoro	Substantive	International	9
	Mbaïki	Substantive	International	2
	Mobaye	Substantive	International	2
	Ndélé	Substantive	International	7
	Nola	Substantive	International	2
	Obo	Substantive	International	3
	Obo ^a	Substantive	International	1
	Paoua	Substantive	International	7
	Sibut	Substantive	International	2
	Bangui	Security	International	4
	Bangui ^a	Security	International	1
	Beni	Support	International	25
		Substantive	International	7
		Substantive	National	1
	Bukavu	Support	International	24
		Support	National	1
		Substantive	International	9
	Bunia	Support	International	21
		Substantive	International	7
		Substantive	National	2
	Entebbe	Support	International	6
		Support	National	1
	Goma	Support	International	126
		Support	National	2
		Substantive	International	15
		Substantive	National	5
	Kalemie	Substantive	International	3
	Kananga	Substantive	International	1
	Kinshasa	Support	International	22
		Support	National	1
		Substantive	International	26
		Substantive	National	1
	Lubumbashi	Substantive	National	1
	Tshikapa	Substantive	International	1
	Uvira	Support	International	13
		Substantive	International	1
UNDOF	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNFICYP	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNIFIL	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNISFA	Abyei	Support	International	37
UNMIK	Pristina	Substantive	International	13

<i>Mission</i>	<i>Duty station</i>	<i>Substantive/ support functions</i>	<i>International/national</i>		<i>Number of United Nations Volunteers</i>
UNMIK	Mitrovica	Substantive	International		5
UNMIK	Pristina	Support	International		5
UNMIK	Pristina	Support	International		1
UNMISS	See table below				
UNSOS	Somalia	Support	International		19
UNSOS	Kenya	Support	International		1
UNLB	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a
RSCE	Entebbe	Support	International		6
	Entebbe	Support	National		1
Support account	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a

<i>Mission</i>	<i>Duty station</i>	<i>Substantive functions (number of positions)</i>	<i>Support functions (number of positions)</i>	<i>Number of international positions</i>	<i>Number of national positions</i>	<i>Total number of United Nations Volunteer positions</i>
UNMISS	Juba	49	161	207	3	210
UNMISS	Malakal	13	22	35	0	35
UNMISS	Wau	9	18	27	0	27
UNMISS	Bor	13	19	32	0	32
UNMISS	Bentiu	12	17	29	0	29
UNMISS	Rumbek	9	14	23	0	23
UNMISS	Torit	9	14	23	0	23
UNMISS	Yambio	9	17	25	1	26
UNMISS	Kuajok	8	12	20	0	20
UNMISS	Aweil	8	11	19	0	19
UNMISS	Entebbe	0	1	1	0	1
UNMISS	Pibor	1	2	3	0	3
UNMISS	Yei	2	1	3	0	3

Abbreviations: MINURSO, United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara; MINUSCA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic; MONUSCO, United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; RSCE, Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda; UNDOF, United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (Golan); UNFICYP, United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus; UNIFIL, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon; UNISFA, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei; UNLB, United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy; UNMIK, United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo; UNMISS, United Nations Mission in South Sudan; and UNSOS, United Nations Support Office in Somalia.

^a Vacant.