*** CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY ***



Agenda item 136 Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019

Revised estimates relating to the report of the Secretary General on the Office of Counter-Terrorism under section 3, Political affairs, section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, and section 36, Staff assessment (A/72/117)

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2018-2019 (A/72/369)

Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/72/366)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas Assistant Secretary-General, Controller 6 October 2017

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

- 1. I have the honour to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the Office of Counter-Terrorism under section 3, Political affairs, section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, and section 36, Staff assessment.
- 2. In its resolution 71/291, the General Assembly welcomed the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/71/858) and decided to establish the Office of Counter-Terrorism, to be headed by an Under-Secretary-General, in accordance with the competencies and functions set out in the report of the Secretary-General. In the same resolution, the General Assembly also welcomed the initiative of the Secretary-General to transfer the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the United Nations Counter-

Terrorism Centre, together with their existing staff, as well as all associated regular budget and extrabudgetary resources, out of the Department of Political Affairs into the Office of Counter-Terrorism.

3. The present report reflects the transfer of the six posts and associated post and non-post resources of \$2 million from the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office in the Department of Political Affairs under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget to the Office of Counter-Terrorism, under the same section. The Secretary-General proposes additional resources in the amount of \$1.1 million (net of staff assessment), including \$1 million for the Office of Counter-Terrorism, reflecting the full biennial provision for the two new posts (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 P-3) approved by the General Assembly by its resolution 71/291 in June 2017, and \$0.1 million for the Office of Central Support Services, for related general operating expenses.

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates,

- 4. I would now like to introduce the next item on the agenda. In paragraph 2, section IV of its resolution 60/248, the General Assembly endorsed the proposal that the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) be submitted for review and approval of the Assembly on a biennial basis in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the related biennium.
- 5. In that context, and in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 70/69 and the Statute of UNIDIR, as well as the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/70/186), the General Assembly is requested to approve the proposed subvention in the amount of \$2,074,700. The provision includes (i) an amount of \$1,774,700 for funding institutional core staffing of UNIDIR and (ii) an amount of \$300,000 for an assessment by an independent third party. The provision is included under section 4, Disarmament affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019.

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates,

- 6. Now I would like to introduce the report of the Secretary-General (A/72/366) entitled "Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.
- 7. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of section III of its resolution 65/268, decided that the conditions of service and compensation, other than the annual net compensation, of the full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and of the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions would be reviewed every four years. The previous review took place at the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly.
- 8. Pursuant to paragraph 9 of section III of that resolution, such reports as the present report are, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent for other agenda items, to be submitted directly to the General Assembly.
- 9. The Secretary-General proposes that the new education grant scheme and the relocation package approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/244 be extended to three officials. No change is proposed to the manner of application of their other conditions of service at this time.
- 10. In its resolution 65/268, the Assembly decided that the annual net compensation of the three officials should be subject to a cost-of-living adjustment equivalent to the annual change in the midpoint net base salary of the Under-Secretaries-General and the Assistant Secretaries-General. These cost-of-living adjustments would be reported in the context of the relevant performance reports submitted to the Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on these items.

Thank you.