



TOWARDS A RAPID REACTION CAPABILITY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

3. The UN should move toward the creation of a unified budget for peace operations, which would place the financing of current operations on a more coherent, predictable and reliable basis. (Page 40)
4. Member States should establish a Peace Operations Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), made up of financial experts from Ministries of Defence. (Page 40)
5. The Secretary-General should be given financial authority to expend funds at various phases of an operation:
 - (i) authority should be provided to expend from the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund up to US\$10 million per mission for contingency planning and preparatory activities at the pre-implementation and pre-mandate phases, under provisions for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses, where the Secretary-General attests to a potential threat to international peace and security;
 - (ii) authority to expend funds should be increased to US\$50 million once the Security Council has authorized a mission but prior to consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ);
 - (iii) in urgent situations, authority should be granted to expend out of the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund a certain percentage of a mission budget, possibly in the order of 50 per cent, upon budgetary approval of the ACABQ but prior to authorization by the Fifth Committee and the General Assembly;
 - (iv) following approval of a mandate by the Security Council and the budget by the ACABQ, which permits the expenditures of up to US\$50 million, assessment notices for this peace operation should be issued immediately to Member States to facilitate prompt payment. (Page 41)
6. Member States and the Secretary-General should work toward the adoption of a set of financial regulations which would permit the UN to function adequately in a crisis situation. These regulations would involve the delegation of responsibility and commensurate authority to appropriate senior UN officials (Under-Secretaries-General, Special Representatives and Force Commanders) to facilitate the effective implementation of peace operations. (Page 42)
7. The funding of the revolving Peacekeeping Reserve Fund for current operations should be increased to US\$300 million from the current \$150 million, by way of assessed contributions from Member States, and interest revenue should be retained in the Fund. (Page 42)
8. The Secretary-General should continue to refine the early-warning capabilities of the Secretariat, concluding additional agreements between the UN and Member States to share information. He should ensure that the early-warning capabilities which already exist within the UN system and related organizations are effectively pooled and that Member States and regional organizations have access to this material. (Page 43)