



REFERENCE: DFS/FBFD/2018/COEWG2020-1

The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 54/19 B, which endorsed the recommendations of the Phase V Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment (COE). A key outcome of this Working Group was the decision to, inter alia, conduct a triennial review of rates of reimbursement for COE and for Member States to provide data to support this process. In its resolution 62/252, the General Assembly approved the recommendation of the COE Working Group that future triennial reviews be conducted in the form of a comprehensive review using data provided by troop- and police-contributing countries.

In this context, the Secretariat wishes to inform Permanent Missions that the next COE Working Group meeting will be convened from 20 to 31 January 2020 (inclusive), in New York, to conduct the triennial review of current reimbursement rates and consider issues papers related to technical standards, procedures and policies of the COE reimbursement system. As recommended by the 2017 COE Working Group in its report A/C.5/71/20 and approved by the General Assembly resolution 71/296, the Working Group will convene an organizational pre-session meeting to elect its Bureau and adopt the agenda. The pre-session meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 21 November 2019.

To support the triennial review by the Working Group, the Secretariat is seeking **national cost data** on major equipment, self-sustainment, and medical support services associated with military and police contingents contributed to United Nations peacekeeping operations, using items that are in service during the calendar year of 2018 as a base. The detailed instructions and spreadsheets that should be used in providing requested data are attached to this note. The General Assembly also approved a form which Member States must use if they elect to endorse rates contained in the current COE Manual (A/72/288), either in part or in full, instead of providing national cost data. This declaration form is also attached. All instructions, forms and sheets for collecting national cost data are available on the Working Group website:

<https://fieldsupport.un.org/en/2020-contingent-owned-equipment-working-group>

The deadline for submission of national cost data or the form to adopt current reimbursement rates is **Friday, 31 May 2019**.

Furthermore, Member States may wish to submit **issue papers** including proposals related to policy, procedure and standards of the COE system, for the consideration of the 2020 COE Working Group. A template for the submission of issue papers is attached to this note and could also be found on the aforementioned website.



All issue papers should be drafted in the template format and submitted to the Secretariat no later than **Friday, 31 May 2019**.

Completed submissions of both national cost data and issue papers, based on the attached templates, should be returned, preferably by electronic mail, to the Reimbursement Policy and Liaison Section of the Field Budget and Finance Division of the Department of Field Support at the Working Group dedicated email: **COEWG2020@un.org**.

The national cost data and issue papers received from Member States will be consolidated by the Secretariat and distributed, along with Secretariat data and issue papers to Member States prior to the 2020 COE Working Group pre-session meeting. To facilitate the consolidation process, the Secretariat would appreciate if Member States could strictly use the templates for the provision of the national cost data and the policy issue papers to support the accurate compilation of the information and its subsequent consideration by the Working Group.

The process will require timely and regular communication between the Secretariat and the Member states. The Reimbursement Policy and Liaison Section of the Field Budget and Finance Division of the Department of Field Support stands ready to assist Permanent Missions in this process. The Secretariat wishes to reaffirm its commitment to working closely with the Permanent Missions to ensure complete confidentiality regarding any data and information collected as part of the exercise.

The Secretariat of the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to express its appreciation to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations for their continued support to the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations, and to renew to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

31 May 2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Rana'.