SECRETARIAT

PARTIAL REIMBURSEMENT OF NON-OPERATIONAL UNITS

Secretariat Issue Paper # 07

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME: Other / Cross-cutting

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

The United Nations selects and deploys uniformed capabilities from Troop and Police Contributing Countries (TPCCs) to ensure that field missions have the right capabilities to fulfil their respective mandates. These capabilities are reflected either under MOU or both MOU and LOA when the uniformed capability is required to provide a service in addition to the personnel and COE (ex. Aviation units).

As per the two binding documents (MOU & LOA), T/PCCs receive reimbursement, which constitutes a considerable part of the field mission budget, given they are providing operational support to the field missions where they are deployed. However, there are cases when a uniformed unit may not be able to conduct operations for the following possible reasons:

- Unable to conduct operations because of the non-availability of the asset under LOA.
- Mandated tasks are not conducted due to undeclared caveats or any other considerations that are under the control of the TPCC.
- LOA asset cannot be used for not meeting safety requirements or other required standards.

In both cases, the non-conduct of operations impacts the fulfillment of the field missions' mandate and thus effects the resources efficiency.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

For an optimal use of resources and ultimately ensuring operational efficiency in support of missions' mandates, it is proposed to apply the following:

Scenario 1: A uniformed unit is deployed under both LOA and MOU.

Declare the unit non-operational and reduce the reimbursement to 50 % of major equipment and self-sustainment except for the following categories:

- General/catering
- Communications/telephone
- General/laundry
- General/accommodation
- Medical/high-risk (epidemiological)
- Miscellaneous general stores/bedding
- Miscellaneous general stores/furniture

Terms of LOA shall apply for the unsatisfactory provision of the service, in these cases:

a. The uniformed unit is unable to provide the capability defined under the terms of the LOA due to the unserviceability of the asset, not meeting safety requirement or other required standards. (ex: aircrafts are unable to operate)

b. Mandated tasks are not conducted due to undeclared caveats or any other considerations that are not considered by the United Nations as beyond control of the TCC.

Scenario 2: A Uniformed unit is deployed under MOU

When mandated tasks are not conducted for whatever reasons that are not considered by the United Nations as beyond control of the TPCC, declare the unit non-operational and apply a 50 % partial reimbursement of major equipment and self-sustainment except for the following categories:

- General/catering
- Communications/telephone
- General/laundry
- General/accommodation
- Medical/high-risk (epidemiological)
- Miscellaneous general stores/bedding
- Miscellaneous general stores/furniture

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Based on the two scenarios, the estimated financial implications are calculated using a Medium Utility Helicopter Unit and an Infantry Battalion as reference:

Scenario 1: Medium Utility Helicopter Unit (165)
The reduction of major equipment reimbursement to 50 % will reduce the monthly cost of the MOU Annex B of the MUHU, considered for financial implications estimate, from USD 54,068.72 to USD 27,034.36, with an annual reduction of major equipment cost of USD 324,412.32
The reduction of reimbursement of the applicable self-sustainment categories to 50 % will reduce the monthly MOU annex C cost from USD 57,281.10 to USD 38,268.30, with an annual reduction of self-sustainment cost of USD 228,153.60. This will result in an annual reduction in the MOU cost of the concerned MUHU to USD 552,565.92

Scenario 2: Infantry Battalion (750)
The reduction of major equipment reimbursement to 50 % will reduce the monthly cost of the MOU Annex B of the Infantry Battalion, considered for financial implications estimate, from USD 312,508.25 to USD 156,254.125. with an annual reduction of major equipment cost of USD 1,875,049.5
The reduction of reimbursement of applicable self-sustainment categories to 50 % of an Infantry Battalion will reduce the monthly MOU cost from USD 298,595 to USD 209,020. with an annual reduction of self-sustainment cost of USD 1,074,900
This will result in an annual reduction in the MOU cost of the concerned Infantry Battalion to USD 2,949,949.5

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

Add a new paragraph 11 to Chapter 2, Section V. Reimbursement, page 7/281 of the COE Manual, add the text in bold and revise the subsequent para numbering accordingly.

11. A reduced reimbursement policy of 50 percent of major equipment and self-sustainment except for General/catering, Communications/telephone, General/laundry, General/accommodation, Medical/high-risk (epidemiological), Miscellaneous general stores/bedding and Miscellaneous general stores/furniture shall apply in cases where a uniformed unit is declared non-operational due to unavailability of the asset required in the Letter of Assist, failure to meet safety or operational standards, or not conducting operations due to undeclared caveats or other considerations, except when it is beyond control of the Troop and Police Contributing Countries as agreed to by the United Nations. The reduced reimbursement shall apply from the date the unit is declared non-operational by the mission authorities till it resumes operational activities and formally declared operational by the mission.

Add a new paragraph 6.8 to Chapter 9, Article 6 Reimbursement and support from the United Nations, page 208/281 of the COE Manual, add the text in bold.

6.8 A reduced reimbursement policy of 50 percent of major equipment and self-sustainment except for General/catering, Communications/telephone, General/laundry, General/accommodation, Medical/high-risk (epidemiological), Miscellaneous general stores/bedding and Miscellaneous general stores/furniture shall apply in cases where a uniformed unit is declared non-operational due to unavailability of the asset required in the Letter of Assist, failure to meet safety or operational standards, or not conducting operations due to undeclared caveats or other considerations, except when it is beyond control of the Troop and Police Contributing Countries and as agreed to by the United Nations. The reduced reimbursement shall apply from the date the unit is declared non-operational by the mission authorities till it resumes operational activities and formally declared operational by the mission.

Add a new definition to para 29 of Chapter 2, Annex A, Definitions, page 15/281, add the text in bold in alphabetical order and revise the subsequent para numbering accordingly.

29. **Non-operational Unit: A Unit is considered non-operational if it is unable to conduct operations due to (i) unavailability of the asset described in the Letter of Assist, (ii) failure to meet safety or other standards as defined in the terms of the Letter of Assist, or (iii) not conducting mandated tasks due to undeclared caveats or other considerations, except where the inability to operate is due to circumstances beyond the unit's control as agreed to by the United Nations. Such status shall be formally declared by the force or the police commander through a fragmentary order.**