

**Opening statement to the Fifth Committee on the Report of the Board of Auditors
on the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
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million of expendable property between the records held at UNMIS and those at receiving missions (UNMISS and UNISFA). Owing to a lack of detailed and complete packing lists, it was difficult to assign accountability and responsibility for the discrepancy.

Procurement management

The Board examined the management of acquisition planning, solicitation, contract management and vendor management and found the following deficiencies:

- (i) Inadequate consideration of available stock before raising requisitions, leading to potential nugatory expenditure, increased risk of wastage, and unnecessary costs such as for increased storage and security overheads;
- (ii) Lack of coordination between and across missions procuring the same or similar products, leading to missed opportunities for scale economies;
- (iii) Lack of clear criteria for vendor invitations and invitations to bid to unregistered vendors impairing the fairness and transparency of procurement actions;
- (iv) Weaknesses in contract management, such as providing contract extensions to poorly performing vendors.

some budget assumptions, and non-consideration of the existing resources in the Mission. The Board estimates that the budget for UNMISS could have been overestimated by some \$102 million.

Overall, based on its sample findings for only, the Board estimates that there could have been a potential overestimation of \$246 million in the 2011/12 budget for peacekeeping operations.