UN peacekeeping constitutes the second largest deployed military force in the world, with nearly 120,000 soldiers, police, and civilian personnel deployed on 15 peacekeeping missions in hotspots around the world. These operations are a boon to U.S. interests, as they help promote our nation’s foreign policy and national security goals and core values without requiring the commitment of U.S. troops. They are also eight extremely cost-effective, as UN missions overall are eight times cheaper than U.S. forces acting alone.

UN peacekeeping missions are currently facing a number of critical and increasingly weighty demands, and it is therefore essential that they receive full funding through the CIPA account in FY 2015. While BWC’s CIPA request is higher than funding levels in the FY'14 omnibus appropriations bill, this is because the FY’14 legislation significantly underfunded our peacekeeping dues. Specifically, it provided no funding for the UN’s new peacekeeping mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and failed to address arrears related to the peacekeeping cap, which Congress declined to lift from 27% to 28% for either FY’13 or FY’14. This, combined with increased needs in several peacekeeping operations—particularly the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)—has left a shortfall of more than $350 million for UN peacekeeping in FY’14.

We are pleased that the Administration’s FY’15 request for CIPA represents a significant increase over the FY’14 omnibus

### Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA) - $2.625 billion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>FY’13 Actual</th>
<th>FY’14 Estimate</th>
<th>FY’15 President’s Request</th>
<th>FY’15 BWC Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIPA</td>
<td>$1.913 billion</td>
<td>$1.765 billion*</td>
<td>$2.518 billion</td>
<td>$2.625 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>PKO</td>
<td>$490.2 million</td>
<td>$435.6 million</td>
<td>$336.15 million</td>
<td>$501.65 million**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peacekeeping Response Mechanism</td>
<td>__</td>
<td>__</td>
<td>$150 million</td>
<td>$250 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIO</td>
<td>$1.472 billion</td>
<td>$1.34 billion</td>
<td>$1.517 billion</td>
<td>$1.517 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIO-UN Regular Budget</td>
<td>$568 million</td>
<td>$618 million</td>
<td>$620 million</td>
<td>$620 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The FY’14 omnibus appropriations bill provided $194 million in PKO to pay U.S. assessments for the UN Office for AMISOM.

**This amount includes $165.5 million to pay U.S. assessments for UNSOA. The Administration included UNSOA funding under its CIPA request.
THE FY’15 BUDGET: STRONG SUPPORT FOR UN COMMITMENTS

and helps reduce the amount the U.S. is in arrears to the UN. However, this request does not address all current peacekeeping-related funding shortfalls. As a result, BWC is requesting $2.625 billion for CIPA in FY’15.

This amount will help ensure that peacekeeping missions that are squarely in our national interest and that the U.S. voted to support in the Security Council receive the resources necessary to carry out their mandates. For example, full funding is vital to ensuring that MINUSMA is able to continue to help stabilize key population centers in northern Mali that, up until early last year, were under the control of several radical Islamist groups, including an affiliate of al-Qaeda.

Full funding for CIPA will also be vital to the ability of UNMISS to respond to political and interethnic violence that broke out in South Sudan in December 2013. Given the Security Council’s decision to temporarily double UNMISS’s troop strength, robust CIPA funding is necessary to help peacekeepers protect over 80,000 South Sudanese civilians who have sought shelter at UN compounds to escape the fighting; facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance to hundreds of thousands more who have been forced to flee their homes; and monitor and document human rights violations. In addition to fully funding FY’15 needs for CIPA and mission-related shortfalls from the current fiscal year, BWC also requests that Congress include language in the FY’15 SFOPS appropriations bill allowing the U.S. to pay its peacekeeping dues at the full assessed rate of 28.36%. Similar language has been included with bipartisan support in State/Foreign Operations bills for fifteen of the last twenty years.

Failing to do so would put the U.S. further into arrears; deny reimbursement to countries like Bangladesh, Ghana, and Jordan, who contribute troops to peacekeeping operations; and potentially deny critical resources to missions that are squarely in our nation’s security interests. We also request that the rate be lifted from 27% to 28.36% retroactively for FY’13 and FY’14, given the lack of language in appropriations bills for these years, allowing us to pay our peacekeeping dues in full.

Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) - $501.65 million

BWC also requests full funding for the PKO account. The funding requested for PKO supports several regional peacekeeping missions, providing voluntary funding for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), as well as other critical activities. In recent years, Congress has also used the PKO Account to fund assessed contributions for the UN Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA), which provides equipment and logistical support to the Somalia mission. AMISOM has made significant military gains against the terrorist group al-Shabaab recently, driving its fighters out of Mogadishu in 2011, and subsequently their last urban outpost in southern Somalia in 2012. Nevertheless, the security situation in Somalia remains extremely volatile, and the Security Council voted last year to increase AMISOM’s troop strength to 22,126 after a bloody attack in September in Nairobi, Kenya raised fears about a resurgent al-Shabaab. This makes a strong and well-resourced AMISOM and the more critical over the coming year. As a result, BWC requests $501.65 million for PKO in FY’15, which includes the $165.5 million requested by the Administration to pay our UNSOA dues (in its budget request, the Administration included UNSOA funding under CIPA).
In addition to traditional peacekeeping-related accounts, BWC also supports the Administration’s FY’15 request for a Peacekeeping Response Mechanism (PKRM) in OCO “to support initial urgent and unexpected requirements of new UN and non-UN missions without compromising support for existing U.S. peacekeeping commitments.” Among other things, this funding could be used to support a new UN peacekeeping mission in the Central African Republic (CAR), which the Security Council could vote to authorize in March or April.

The serious funding challenges facing MINUSMA demonstrate the wisdom of creating a mechanism for flexible peacekeeping funding. Last year, the President’s budget did not include a request for MINUSMA, and Congress declined to fund the mission in the FY’14 Omnibus. Clearly, crises requiring the authorization of new or expanded peacekeeping operations can arise at any time, without regard to our normal budgetary procedures. As a result, we believe that the PKRM could be an effective way to deal with the budgetary challenges created by unanticipated new peacekeeping needs. It is important to point out, however, that the allocation of PKRM funding would be subject to: (1) a determination by the Secretary of State that extra funding beyond the President’s FY’15 CIPA or PKO submission is needed, and; (2) in the case of CAR or any other UN-led peacekeeping operation, a vote in the Security Council actually establishing such a mission. While the Administration is requesting $150 million for PKRM, the cost of a CAR mission - by UN accounts - is likely to match the costs of MINUSMA last year, which was $250 million for the United States. As a result, BWC is asking for $250 million for the account in FY’15.

**Contributions to International Organizations (CIO) - $1.517 billion**

We also request full funding for the State Department’s CIO Account, which includes U.S. dues payments to the UN regular budget, at the level of $1.517 billion included in the President’s FY’14 request (with $620 million specifically for the regular budget). The UN Regular Budget supports a number of the body’s core functions, and serves as a particularly effective example of the strategic and financial value of U.S. engagement with the UN, as other UN Member States pay nearly 80 percent of costs. The regular budget finances, among other things, UN political missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, and Israel that are directly in our national interests and working to promote stability in key regions of the world.

**UNESCO**

In late 2013, following two consecutive years of not paying our dues, the U.S. lost its vote in UNESCO. Some of UNESCO’s largest programs are in the Horn of Africa and Middle East promoting education and free speech. The loss of our voice at UNESCO and the continuing cut-off of funds significantly dilutes our influence and weakens programs that are directly in our national interest. We therefore request that Congress provide the State Department with authority to waive the cut off of U.S. funding to UNESCO so that the U.S. can pay its dues and regain its seat at the table. We do support the Administration’s request for conditional authority to transfer up to $160 million to CIO to pay our UNESCO dues should a waiver be passed by Congress, and the request to include $880,000 in the International Organizations and Programs account for UNESCO’s World Heritage Program.