



Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

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Statement by Mr. Mondo Yamamoto, Counsellor
Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

Agenda item 134: Special Political Missions

Fifth Committee
Sixty-fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly
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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to Ms. Maria Eugenia Casar, Assistant-Secretary-General/Controller and Mr. Collen Kelapile, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), for introducing their reports.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to raise a couple of points with respect to the budgetary request for Special Political Missions (SPMs) for 2012.

First of all, Japan strongly supports each of Special Political Missions' mandates, and we also highly appreciate the initiative shown by the Secretary-General to propose an appropriation of 1,083,036,300 dollars for the SPMs in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, representing a decrease of around 120 million dollars compared to the revised appropriation for the previous biennium 2010-2011, which amounted to 1,203,840,800 dollars. Japan underscores the importance of seeking the most efficient and effective ways to allocate limited resources. Nevertheless, we have concern that the proposed budget allocation of 617,620,600 dollars for 2012 or the first half of the biennium, exceeds half of the total proposed amount for the biennium's budget (which would only be 540 million dollars) by some 78 million dollars. We are of the opinion that Member States should bring together their insights and ideas to determine the most efficient and effective way to maintain the Secretary-General's proposal in the proposed biennium budget.

In this vein, we would like to express that efforts should also be made to prepare the budgetary request for 2013 or the second year of the biennium with prudence, so as to fall within the original limits of the proposed programme budget.

Mr. Chairman,

Our delegation welcomes the recommendations and comments presented in the ACABQ report (A/66/7/add.12) which carefully and technically scrutinized the proposed budget in a balanced manner, fully taking into account the mandate of each of the Missions. We strongly believe that recommendations by the ACABQ would be the best starting point to begin our discussions.

Also, among the Missions, Japan would specifically like to highlight the important activities of the Sanction Monitoring Panels. Our delegation will continue to fully support the activities conducted by these Panels so that they may be able to accomplish the mandates given to them by the Security Council.

Mr. Chairman,

Before I conclude, let me express that Japan shares the concern with several other Member States that we will not have enough time to properly discuss and scrutinize the reports by the Secretary-General and ACABQ on Funding and Backstopping of the SPMs during this main session, which have so far not been included in the planned programme of work. Japan strongly wishes that sufficient time would be allocated to discuss these reports.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, you have my assurances that my delegation will engage constructively with the other Member States in the discussions on this important agenda item.

Thank you.