



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

(Please check against delivery)

STATEMENT BY MS. NORFARINA MOHD AZMEE, COUNSELLOR, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA ON AGENDA ITEM 134: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET 2012-2013 - ESTIMATES IN RESPECT OF SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS, GOOD OFFICES AND OTHER POLITICAL INITIATIVES AUTHORIZED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND/ OR THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE 66TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 9TH DECEMBER 2011

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time I am speaking at the Fifth Committee, allow me to begin by congratulating you on your election as the Chairman of this Committee. Our congratulations also go to the members of the Bureau. My delegation is confident that with your experience and leadership you will be able to steer the work of the Committee to a successful outcome.

2. My delegation also wishes to thank Ms. María Eugenia Casar, Assistant Secretary-General/ Controller, for the introduction of the Secretary-General's reports on the Special Political Missions (SPMs). Also to Mr. Collen Kelapile, Chairman of the ACABQ, for introducing the related report of the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

3. My delegation takes note of the proposed resource requirements for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2012 for 30 Special Political Missions authorized by the General Assembly and/ or the Security Council amounting to \$617.6 million. This includes proposals of \$580.3 million for 27 missions which were in existence at the time the Secretary-General proposed the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

4. The Advisory Committee, in its report, recognizes the reductions in the level of resource requirements under operational costs when compared to the approved budgets for 2011. However, further information with regard to the measures undertaken in achieving efficiencies in the operation of the Special Political Missions could have been incorporated in the report of the Secretary-General to the Fifth Committee.

5. We would like to take this opportunity also to express our concerns with the late introduction of this agenda item just before the end of the conclusion of our Fifth Committee session, as in preceding years. Member States should be given a practical timeline to address this agenda item as it involves complex proposals involving hundreds of millions of dollars for the Special Political Missions.

6. Thematic cluster II: sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels (A/66/354/Add.4), proposed resource requirements for 11 Special Political Missions grouped under this cluster amounting to \$32.4 million for the year 2012. My delegation welcomes the further improvement of the procedures and working methods of the Security Council within the framework of the sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels. While we maintain the highest respect for the primacy of Security Council resolutions, my delegation believes that assistance should always be rendered to third States, which have been inadvertently affected by the applications of sanctions, within the ambit of principles of international law. Thus, it is imperative to ensure utmost transparency and accountability in carrying out the relevant mandates in this regard.

7. As for the thematic cluster III: United Nations offices, peacebuilding support offices, integrated offices and commissions, in particular to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) (A/66/354/Add.4), my delegation takes note of the proposed resource requirements for UNAMA from 1 January to 31 December 2012, totaling \$241.5 million (net) representing a net decrease of \$15.6 million, or 6.2 per cent, as compared with the resources approved for UNAMA for 2011. We support the Advisory Committee in requesting the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in monitoring progress and ensuring that the security construction work at UNAMA is completed according to schedule and within the allocated resources.

8. While we strongly support the reconciliation and reintegration process undertaken by the Afghan Government, my delegation believes that the human capacity building is vital in the nation building process. For Afghanistan to achieve long-term stability, greater and more sustainable growth and development, we need to ensure its human capacity building is given utmost priority.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Malaysia will continue to support the need of this august body in order to ensure that the implementation of mandates of the Special Political Missions could be delivered in a timely and sustainable manner. I wish to express my delegation's full support in working with all Member States and the Secretariat, and we look forward to participate constructively in future discussion of this agenda item.

Thank you.