

Statement delivered by the delegation of Mexico under the item 134:

Programme budget: biennium 2012-2013.

Special Political Missions

22 May 2012.

- **Office of the Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for the crisis in Syria.**
- **Office of the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan**
- **United Nations Support Mission in Libya**
- **United Nations Political Office for Somalia**

Mr. President,

Mexico associates itself to the statement delivered by the Representative of Chile, on behalf of the CELAC, and wishes to make the following remarks on its national capacity.

First of all, allow me to thank Controller Ms. María Eugenia Casar and Mr. Collin Kelapile, Chairman of ACABQ, for the presentation of both reports regarding item 134: Programme budget: biennium 2012-2013, Special Political Missions.

The Mission of Mexico reiterates its support for the important role of the four Special Political Missions, whose budget is under consideration today by Member States on the occasion of this Second Resumed Session of the Fifth Committee.

Mexico, as a peace loving country and a strong advocate for multilateralism, is ready to support all efforts of the international community to advance the cause of reconciliation and political dialogue in situations identified by the Security Council as threats to international peace and security according to the Charter. We also reiterate our determination to fully meet our obligations in this regard.

However, as we have stated in other opportunities, we consider that there is a fundamental contradiction that we cannot ignore on this issue.

It is evident that, from an operational perspective, there is no difference between the requirements of the Special Political Missions, particularly those with significant presence on the field and the Peacekeeping Operations.

Until now, the inability to clearly differentiate between both types of activities to promote international peace and security has been clear. This reflects in the dilemma faced by both the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support between violating the existing legislative provisions or fulfilling their responsibility to provide support to Missions with field presence, mandated in their majority by the Security Council, such as the cases that we have under consideration today.

Some Secretariat representatives that have interacted with the Committee in the recent informal consultations seem not to be even aware of this contradiction nor of lacking mandates by this Assembly, when providing support to Special Political Missions with resources from the Support Account or from the Strategic Deployment Stocks.

Even in the reports under consideration of this Assembly and in the additional information provided to answer some questions of the Member States, the term "peacekeeping operations" or "field missions", has been indistinctively used to include both peacekeeping operations and Special Political Missions.

The Secretariat does its best to fully comply with the contradictory mandates given by different organs. Nevertheless, as Member States, we have been unable to cope with this circumstance and find a solution that may effectively allow the Secretariat to provide, with all transparency and legality, the operational support that these important missions require.

It is also clear that the need of this Committee to address issues related to Special Political Missions in practically all of its sessions reflects additionally that their cycles, because of their sense of urgency for the maintenance of peace and security, are completely different from the biannual cycle of the regular budget.

Mr. President,

During the main session of this Assembly, my delegation was particularly vocal on this issue, trying to find a positive solution "to normalize" this complicated situation. Unfortunately this was not possible and, in the understanding that this issue was going to be fully and adequately addressed during the upcoming Main Session of the General Assembly, we agreed to postpone the discussion.

However, it is necessary to underscore that the analysis of the actual situation makes us realize that we are facing a situation that is operationally unsustainable and we invite the membership as a whole, to consider in the most constructive way, the adjustments that we all know are needed, and that will benefit both kinds of missions.

Finally, allow me to assure to you that my delegation will participate in an active and constructive way in the analysis of the budget of the four Missions that we have under consideration under this agenda item, and we will be ready to present our suggestions on the core of this matter in the next session of the General Assembly.

Thank you very much.