



**Statement on behalf of the Member States
of the European Union**

By

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Fifth Committee**

**Item 136. Improving the Financial Situation
of the UN**

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Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the European Union.

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me thank Mr. Warren Sach for his presentation, as Officer-In-Charge, Department of Management, on 14 May, which provided us with useful information on the financial situation of the United Nations and on how Member States fulfil their obligations under the UN Charter to contribute to the financial expenses of the Organisation. We also wish to thank the Controller, Assistant Secretary-General Ms. Maria Eugenia Casar, for the update she presented this morning.

The Member States of the European Union wish to reiterate that it is the responsibility of each Member State to pay its assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions. We would also like to underline that, on the part of the Organisation, effective and efficient use of resources is important today more than ever in the context of the world financial crisis.

Mr. Chairman,

We are pleased to see that as at the end of 2011, 143 Member States had fully paid their **regular budget** assessments. We note with satisfaction that this is 5 member states more than for the corresponding period of 2010. Although the outstanding assessments at 7 May 2012 are lower than last year's, we remain concerned about these outstanding assessed contributions, which, as of 7 May 2012, amounted to over 1.18 billion USD.

Turning to **peacekeeping budgets**, the Member States of the European Union also note with concern that the financial situation as at 31 December 2011 shows some deterioration when compared with the previous year's outstanding contributions.

Moreover, the amount of unpaid assessments, exceeding 2.48 billion USD as at 1 January 2012, is still of great concern. We call on all Member States to pay their contributions in order to enable

the Organisation to perform its challenging tasks and to fully implement its peacekeeping operation mandates. We note with appreciation that payments for troops and formed police unit costs are current up to February 2012 for all missions, except for MINURSO and UNMIT due to the insufficient cash in the special accounts for these missions.

Mr. Chairman,

We note that the financial situation of the **international tribunals** is unchanged compared to last year. As of 7 May 2012, 64 Member States had paid their assessments in full, compared to 61 last year. However, we are concerned that there are still unpaid assessments of 84 million USD, despite the positive trend compared to the 133 million of last year. This may hamper the completion strategies of both Tribunals.

With regard to the budget for the **Capital Master Plan**, the Member States of the European Union continue to support this important project, despite the delay in implementation. The outstanding amount of contributions, as of 7 May 2012, was 8 million USD, compared to 116 million USD last year. This positive trend shows the strong commitment of all UN Member States to the Capital Master Plan.

Mr. Chairman,

The Member States of the European Union believe that the Organisation can perform its increasing and challenging tasks only when Member States fulfil their financial responsibility to the Organisation. The significant level of outstanding assessments reminds us of the need to take this responsibility seriously.

To conclude, the Member States of the European Union, which contribute nearly 40 per cent of all assessed contributions, exceeding by far their GNI share, will continue to stress the importance of the most effective, efficient and transparent use of the resources of the Organisation and of a more balanced way to share the budgetary responsibilities of the Organisation. Only a more equitable sharing of financial responsibilities among UN Member

States according to their actual capacity to pay can secure a sustainable financing architecture of the UN system.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.