

STATEMENT BY SAHEBZADA A. KHAN, MINISTER PERMANENT MISSION OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 146. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES, AT THE SECOND PART OF THE RESUMED SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (New York, 9 May 2011)

Mr. Chairman,

Pakistan delegation thanks the Secretary-General for the presentation of his overview and related reports. We deeply appreciate the Department of Field Support for its diligence in managing the United Nations flagship activity of peacekeeping operations.

Pakistan delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

2. The Secretary-General has rightly stated that UN peacekeeping operations is becoming increasingly challenging both politically and operationally. The response from the international community would, therefore, has to be robust and resource-intensive.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Pakistan has played a cardinal role in the maintenance of international peace and security under the auspices of the United Nations.

4. We take pride in our modest contribution to the United Nations success in promoting global peace and stability during which about 130 Pakistani peacekeepers made the ultimate sacrifice serving under the UN banner. In addition over 100 personnel have been wounded.

5. We believe in the usefulness of an overview report that provides comprehensive information on all operational and related aspects of the peacekeeping operations. This is an effective mechanism that provides the General Assembly an opportunity to review the Secretary-General's major initiatives aimed at improving operational efficiency of the field missions.

6. While the comprehensive information provided in the overview report on yearly basis is critical for the General Assembly to make well-informed decisions, it would be reasonable to allow the Secretary-General to consolidate progress in the implementation

of his on-going initiatives in the field and multi-year projects. Pakistan delegation, has, therefore, consistently advocated the idea of biennializing the overview reports of the Secretary-General.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Troop cost is indeed a matter of great concern for Pakistan and other TCCs. In order to provide an interim relief, the General Assembly last year approved a small amount of increase for the difficulties that TCCs face. We hope that until a long term comprehensive measures are taken, necessary compensation would be provided to the United Nations peacekeepers.

8. We look forward to constructive engagement with all stakeholders to resolve this matter on priority basis.

9. In order to bring greater coherence between those who manage, direct, and command operations and those who provide the invaluable human resource, TCCs – the implementers on ground, it is essential that the relationship between stakeholders encompasses adequate representation of TCCs at the top managerial positions including on the support side, both in the field and at the headquarters particularly in DPKO and DFS.

10. Unfortunately there has not been a considerable improvement in these areas, which would require consistent efforts.

11. In this regard we note with interest the Secretary-General's efforts to address the vital issue of under-representation of TCCs and PCCs including through his strategic outreach activities.

12. We, however, believe that the Secretary-General's planned outreach activities should be supported by specific targets, benchmarks and timeframes to produce demonstrable results.

13. We look forward to discussing this issue in details and we would make some constructive proposals to this effect during the informals.

14. Pakistan has remained constructively engaged since the inception of the Strategy and we continue to support its broad principles and laudable objectives as the initiative further evolves.

15. While detailed discussion on the progress in implementation of the Strategy will take place during the informals, we would like to offer general remarks on some of the key issues as follows:

16. To measure the progress to monitor the Strategy, which is in its evolutionary process, the provision of comprehensive information with the required detail and clarity is essential. Piecemeal reporting with scattered details hinders the consideration of important issues and hampers the decision making process in the Committee;

17. We hope that the Secretary-General would consider enhancing the quality and improving the reporting process on the progress in GFSS which is also consecutively observed by the Advisory Committee;

18. We note with concern the findings of the Board of Auditors in this context and its identification of risks to the successful delivery of the Global Field Support Strategy. We see merit in the Board's recommendations related to the GFSS and we look forward to hearing from the Secretariat on the plan for the implementation of recommendations.

19. We believe developing a comprehensive matrix on the progress in implementation of GFSS would greatly facilitate the consideration of this issue and its timely disposal.

20. We believe that it is opportune to conduct a thorough analysis and review of the GFSS with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of the process and the achievement of its goals and both the qualitative and quantitative benefits.

Mr. Chairman,

21. We greatly appreciate the steps taken by the DFS for engaging with TCCs by way of its briefings to the special committee on peacekeeping (C-34).

22. We encourage the Secretariat's efforts to continue its formal and informal consultations with TCCs on the entire set of cross-cutting issues. Such interactions, we believe, foster the environment of mutual trust and strengthen the cooperation between the management and the Member States.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.