



## STATEMENT

**on behalf of the African Group by Mr. Brouz Ralph COFFI, Counselor at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations, on agenda items 147, 149, 150, 151, 157, 158, 159, 161, 164 and 165 during the second part of the resumed sixty-sixth session of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly**

**(New York, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012)**

**Mr. Chairman,**

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group on the following agenda items:
  - Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force in Abyei;
  - Financing of the United Nations Operation in Cote d' Ivoire (UNOCI);
  - Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP);
  - Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC/MONUSCO);
  - Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK);
  - Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL);
  - Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS);
  - Financing of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID);
  - and
  - Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009): United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA);
  
2. The Group thanks the Assistant Secretary-General/Controller, Ms. Maria Eugenia Casar, for introducing the various reports of the Secretary-General's on financing the aforementioned missions and activities for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2012 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013. The Group would also like to thank Mr. Collen Kelapile, the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) for introducing the related reports of the Advisory Committee.

**Mr. Chairman,**

3. The African Group attaches great importance to the work of the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions and related activities. During the 2011/2012 financial period, a number of missions were mandated to support the holding of important elections and other activities in the pursuit of stability, peace and security. In the coming financial period 2012/13, peacekeeping

missions will continue to pursue a clear set of objectives in very dynamic and challenging environments. It is therefore critical that the decisions we take in this committee facilitate the very important work that UN peacekeepers continue to do across the globe.

4. The Group would like to stress the necessity of providing adequate resources to each peacekeeping mission to ensure that each mission effectively implements its mandates in full. The Group has therefore noted with concern that, due to the application of what has been termed as “resource reduction targets”, the Secretary-General’s proposal for most peacekeeping missions reflect significant reductions as compared to resources approved for the 2011/2012 financial period for the same missions. Similarly, the ACABQ has recommended further reductions on the level of resources requested for various missions. While we undertake to carefully scrutinize each proposal and the recommendations thereof, we would like to state clearly that the Group will reject any arbitrary reductions, measures or initiatives that could undermine mandate implementation and jeopardize the safety, security and well being of UN Peacekeepers.

5. During the course of our discussions, the Group expects that Secretariat officials will have ample opportunity to expound on the proposals and provide additional information as may be requested. We are fully determined to work with partners to ensure the provision of adequate resources for each mission.

**Mr. Chairman,**

4. In conclusion, I wish to reiterate the African Group’s readiness and willingness to constructively engage in negotiations on each of the aforementioned agenda items. In a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust, this Committee should be able to consider the specific mandates and unique circumstances of each mission, the needs and the merits of each proposal, and ultimately we should be able to allocate adequate resources accordingly.

**I thank you.**