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STATEMENT

BY

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DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AT THE
GENERAL DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEM 129: REVIEW OF THE
EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF
THE UNITED NATIONS-CIVILIAN CAPACITY IN THE AFTERMATH OF
CONFLICT AT THE 5TH COMMITTEE

AT THE
UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK

December 7, 2012

Mr. President,

Let me begin by thanking you for organizing today's general discussion on Civilian Capacity Review. I wish to thank the Civilian Capacity Steering Committee and the delegations of Canada and Indonesia for anchoring the informal deliberative aspect of this process.

We have taken note of Secretary General's report and ACABQ's subsequent views on them. At the outset let me share our satisfaction that this review process is gathering momentum in its inter-governmental context.

Mr. President,

Governance, basic-services, and public administration are some of the formidable challenges that countries face when in transition from conflict to lasting peace. Support to national civilian capacities in post-conflict situations is an important imperative that must engage our attention in the United Nations. My delegation strongly supports proposals that seek to enhance field capacities to contain conflicts.

The Civilian Capacity process has played an important role in mainstreaming this idea.

Mr. President, my delegation believes that today's discussion will enrich civilian capacity review process by incorporating views and ideas from wider range of member states. Given the integral nature of field-operations and the deep peacekeeping-peacebuilding linkages, a vibrant deliberation in the C-34 and the 5th Committee contexts will make its outcomes inclusive.

My delegation will continue to engage itself in these deliberations in a proactive and constructive manner to help realize the goals of enhancing national civilian capacities under the United Nations in post conflict situations.

Mr. President,

Peacekeeping enjoys a unique centrality in UN's peace and security architecture. Our achievements on economic, social, political, and development fronts depend on our ability to capitalize on these initial gains. The civilian capacity, in this regard, is a critical element within the overarching framework of peacekeeping and peacebuilding. We firmly believe that the initiatives in the civilian domain in post-conflict situations

sprout from the good foundations of peacekeeping. These proposals, therefore, can not be as an alternative to peacekeeping.

Mr. President,

Given the financial constraints of the times we live in it is imperative that we strengthen the existing work and programmatic streams first rather than devising new mechanisms. The organizational, financial, and human resource implications of the civilian capacity initiatives in this regard need better clarity. Parallels and lessons from similar reform initiatives such as UMOJA, GFSS, CMP, and Mobility must become part of our toolkit to examine new projects. A judicious step at the outset will save us multiple demands for course correction later.

Mr. President,

Time is opportune now that the Civilian Capacity Initiative moves from the conceptual stage to the programmatic domain. Its road map and end-state vision must be accessible with the member states with its associated timelines, deliverables, and measurable indicators for impact and success assessment. My delegation firmly believes that episodic sharing of information blunts the good momentum generated after many efforts.

Absence of an organizational address for the civilian capacity initiative will complicate monitoring, oversight, and accountability processes of this General Body. Due diligence of the programmatic aspects, scope, and full cost implications of the Civilian Capacity Review should be placed for this committee's scrutiny in order to proceed forward. Verification mechanisms for NGOs in CAPMATCH must be stringent so as to minimize reputational risk to this organization. Their financial implications for the regular budget also must be elaborated.

My delegation believes that Civilian Capacity Review process should be placed firmly in membership domain in formal inter-governmental context.

Finally, Mr. President, my delegation firmly believes that the budgetary, personnel, and recruitment aspects of this organization, as approved by GA, must be adhered to strictly in all circumstances. Transparency, fairness, and judicious deployment of scarce resources of this organization are priorities that shall be supreme to this committee.

My delegation strongly supports all endeavours that reinforce national capacities in post-conflict societies.

I thank you Mr. President.