



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

**By**

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to the United Nations**

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Fifth Committee**

**Item 130. Programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013  
Organizational Resilience Management System**

**United Nations**

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**– AS DELIVERED –**

Mr Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to thank Mr. Warren Sach, Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services, for introducing the Secretary General's report contained in document A/67/266, as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for his introductory remarks on the related report of that Committee contained in document A/67/608. I would also like to thank Mr. István Posta for presenting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit contained in document A/67/83, as well as Mr. Jasim Samatar for introducing the comments of the United Nations Chief Executives' Board for Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit.

Mr Chairman,

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

The Acceding country Croatia<sup>\*</sup>, the candidate countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>\*</sup>, Montenegro<sup>\*</sup>, Iceland<sup>+</sup> and Serbia<sup>\*</sup>, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia, align themselves with this statement.

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<sup>\*</sup> Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

<sup>+</sup> Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

Mr Chairman,

The EU Member States welcome the progress made in developing and implementing a comprehensive emergency management approach. The EU Member States support the approval of the organizational resilience management system as the emergency management framework and welcome the Secretariat's intention to continue developing the organizational resilience management system within existing resources. With this view, we look forward to receiving additional detailed information on a range of issues related to the framework, including in the areas specifically mentioned by the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

Mr. Chairman,

The importance of having a fully functional framework in place has been recently demonstrated by the emergency created by hurricane Sandy. The framework played an important role in the planning and preparation for the storm. In this respect, we fully recognise the challenge faced by the Secretariat staff in handling a situation of such severity and we wish once again to express our gratitude for the efforts they deployed in trying to keep the integrity of the UN complex. At the same time, certain critical services did not function for a few hours and we also experienced serious communication issues with the permanent representations in New York, as well as with the broader public and the press. This emergency is an opportunity to draw lessons and take them into account in updating and improving the Emergency Management Framework. We welcome the decision to convene a senior-level task force, chaired by the Chef de Cabinet, to specifically look into these issues and we look forward to specific proposals on how any shortcomings identified can be addressed.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.