



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

By

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-AS DELIVERED -

Mr. Chairman,

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

The Acceding country Croatia^{*}, the candidate countries Turkey, Montenegro^{*} and Serbia^{*}, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia, align themselves with this statement.

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to thank Mr. Yukio Takasu Under Secretary-General for Management, for introducing the Secretary General's report contained in document A/67/748, as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, 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/67/789. I would also like to thank Ms. Susana Malcorra, Chef de Cabinet, for presenting the outcome of the After-Action Review that was set up under her leadership in the aftermath of storm Sandy.

Mr. Chairman,

First of all, the EU Member States wish once again to recognise the challenge faced by the Secretariat staff in handling a situation of such severity as storm Sandy and we express our gratitude for the efforts they deployed in trying to keep the integrity of the UN complex.

With respect to the repair work, we note that, according to the preliminary estimate of claims, an amount of over \$11 million will not be covered by insurance. We will want to scrutinise the estimates carefully and support the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that efforts should be made to absorb any requirements in excess of the insurance coverage by seeking further efficiencies and savings

^{*} Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

during the course of the repair work. We also support the Committee's recommendation that efforts should be made to absorb the additional requirements, estimated at over \$6 million, relating to mitigation measures. Again we will scrutinise this figure carefully.

With respect to the cash flow requirements for the repair work, we would like to stress the need to negotiate with the insurers to provide both the best possible payout, and higher interim settlements. We will also wish to examine whether the expected sum that the insurances will pay is realistic.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, with regard to the future insurance coverage, we look forward to receiving more information on the efforts undertaken to explore the possibility to secure additional coverage beyond the current ceiling and we support the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that the Secretary-General should closely monitor the insurance market with a view of being adequately insured against all types of risk at a reasonable price.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.