



BRAZIL

STATEMENT BY MINISTER SERGIO RODRIGUES DOS SANTOS

**ON AGENDA ITEM 130: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 2012-2013 –
SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS, IN THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING THE MAIN PART OF
THE 67TH SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

(NEW YORK, 14 DECEMBER 2012)

(Please check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

In a context of reinvigorated commitment to conflict prevention, the flexibility to implement mandates such as mediation, preventive diplomacy and peacebuilding has given Special Political Missions a growing prominence in the UN's peace and security architecture.

The importance of SPMs is evidenced by the fact that they have been at the forefront of the Organization's response to some of the most sensitive and volatile situations in the world today.

As we analyze and approve the budgets before us in this session, our main concern, as always, should be to ensure that every SPM can count on the means it requires to fulfill its mandate.

However, ensuring that SPMs can perform in the most efficient way requires a more comprehensive approach, which must translate into financial and administrative arrangements the growing role of SPMs in promoting international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

Currently, SPMs face several challenges as a result of their backstopping and financial arrangements.

The current financial arrangements, to the extent that they are bound to the structure of the regular budget, are unable to adequately sustain the special and volatile nature of mandates particular to the peace and security agenda.

As a result, approved SPM budgets rarely address the needs of Missions for the entire biennium and often require revised appropriations. This piecemeal approach contributes to neither transparency, nor efficiency. It creates unnecessary difficulties for the programme and budget planning processes and generates an additional burden on the regular budget.

Furthermore, the limitations resulting from the backstopping arrangements for special political missions significantly limit their capacity to perform complex mandates.

Special political missions' accomplishments would certainly be enhanced if resources and mechanisms kept pace with their operational realities.

In addition to solving the technical issues above, my delegation believes that the General Assembly must review the scale of assessments applicable to SPMs. The Assembly has already recognized that the special responsibilities of the Permanent Members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security must be reflected in the scale of assessments, as in the cases of Peacekeeping Operations and International Tribunals.

Mr. Chairman,

We need to address the questions related to the backstopping and financial systems of SPMs in order to provide the Organization with more efficient and effective means to maintain international peace and security.

Given the importance of the issues at stake, we must take a decision on the matter at the current session. You can count on the continued and constructive engagement of the Brazilian delegation on this matter.

Thank you.