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Agenda item 131: Programme planning

Strategic framework for the period 2014-2015

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

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Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to present the Proposed Strategic Framework for the period 2014-2015. The Proposed Strategic Framework has been prepared in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/269, which requested the Secretary-General to prepare a strategic framework on a biennial basis.

By the same resolution, the General Assembly affirmed that the strategic framework shall constitute the principal policy directive of the United Nations. This strategic framework also takes into account the guidance of the General Assembly, set out in resolutions 59/275, 61/235, 62/224, 63/247, 64/229, 65/244 and 66/8.

The Proposed Strategic Framework is contained in document A/67/6 and comprises Part One: Plan Outline, and Part Two: Biennial Programme Plan. The Biennial Programme Plan covers 28 programmes. The Proposed Strategic Framework is a translation of legislative mandates and will serve as the framework for the biennial programme budget proposals for 2014-2015. A summary listing of key legislative mandates is included at the end of each programme in Part Two: Biennial Programme Plan.

The Plan Outline before you was prepared under the leadership of the Secretary-General with the full involvement of his senior management. It concentrates on the eight priority areas for the work of the Organization identified previously by the General Assembly in resolution 65/262, and on the vision set out by the Secretary-General for responding to these challenges.

It is important to note that the document before you has already been subject to intergovernmental review by relevant sectoral, functional and regional bodies. In a number of cases, these reviews took place prior to finalization of the strategic framework and the outcomes have been already incorporated in proposals now before you. In other instances, intergovernmental review occurred after the finalization of initial proposals and modifications were provided to CPC when it reviewed the Proposed Strategic Framework in June.

Work will continue, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/269, to ensure that programmes are updated as appropriate to reflect the impact of intergovernmental decisions taken subsequent to the preparation earlier this year of the Proposed Strategic Framework. Such changes will be included in the introduction of the budget fascicles, if applicable, and submitted to CPC at its 53rd session.

The Proposed Strategic Framework for the period 2014-2015 has benefited from the experience gained since the methodology of showing the relationship among objectives,

expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement was first introduced in 2002. In line with recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in its report on its fiftieth session (A/65/16), the Secretariat worked in a coordinated manner to improve the formulation of all elements of subprogramme logical frameworks to make them more meaningful to Member States as information on planned results, and for use as a management tool. The refinements made to the logical frameworks are intended to improve accountability in line with General Assembly resolution 64/259, wherein the General Assembly decided, inter alia, that accountability includes achieving objectives and high-quality results in a timely and cost-effective manner and fully implementing and delivering on all mandates to the Secretariat as approved by United Nations intergovernmental bodies and other subsidiary organs established by them in compliance with all resolutions, regulations, rules and ethical standards, and to ensure a fully results-oriented Organization.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.