

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by the Chinese Delegate, Mr. Ye Xuenong, at the 5th Committee of the 67th Session of the General Assembly under Item 132: Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations

Oct. 18, 2012

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation wishes to thank USG Mr. Takasu and Controller Ms. Maria Eugenia Casar for their presentations on the current financial situation of the UN. My delegation associates itself with the statement by Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

As the world's most universal, representative and authoritative intergovernmental organization, the United Nations is an important and irreplaceable actor in international affairs. Sustained and stable financial support is an important guarantee for the normal functioning of the UN. In today's world, the entire international community looks to the UN to play a bigger role in maintaining world peace, promoting common development, and strengthening international cooperation, and this makes it all the more important for the UN to have a sound and stable financial foundation. All member states are duty bound to act according to the spirit of the UN Charter and the principle of capacity to pay established by the General

Assembly, and pay their assessed contributions on time, in full and without conditions in faithful fulfilment of their due financial obligations.

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation is pleased to note the improvement of the current financial situation of the UN compared with the previous year. In comparison with last year, the amount of assessments paid increased by \$112 million while unpaid assessments decreased by \$12 million. According to the Controller, as of Oct. 5th, 31 member states have paid all their assessments; 129 member states have paid off their contributions to the regular budget; 95 member states have paid in full their assessments for ICIY and ICTR; and 32 member states have paid their peacekeeping assessments in full. Those member states, developing states in particular, made great efforts to fulfill their financial obligations despite their various difficulties, which in the view of the Chinese delegation deserves our appreciation. We note with regret, on the other hand, that for the regular budget, there are still \$855 million in unpaid assessments, which will result in financial strains on the regular budget by the end of this year. As for peacekeeping budget, it has an even higher amount of unpaid assessments in the huge sum of \$1.85 billion. Of the unpaid assessments under these two budgets, the arrears owed by major contributors take up a striking portion. We call on the countries concerned to pay all their assessments on time, in full and without conditions, just like many other member states.

The Chinese delegation has noticed that right now, the UN owed the TCCs for peacekeeping operations \$1 billion in various costs. We welcome the Secretary-General is committed to meeting obligations to Member States

providing troops and equipment as expeditiously as possible because it will alleviate the financial burden of many developing countries.

Mr. Chairman,

As a developing country with a low per capita income and many people living under the poverty line, China has limited capacity to pay. Nevertheless, as a responsible member state, China has paid on time all its contribution to the regular budget, as well as its assessments for the two tribunals, the CMP and various peacekeeping operations. As it has committed, China has with its deeds made concrete contribution to ensuring a sound financial foundation for the UN. Together with other member states, China will continue to work actively to enable the UN to better perform its functions on a sound and balanced financial foundation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.