



SRI LANKA

Statement

by

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**Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka
To the United Nations**

during the

5th Committee

of the

67th United Nations General Assembly

On Agenda item 134:

**“Scale of Assessment for the Apportionment of the
Expenses of the United Nations”**

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(Please check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is our first intervention this session, my delegation would like to congratulate you, Mr. Miguel Berger, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany, and the other members of the Bureau on your election. We look forward to working closely with the Bureau during this 67th session of the General Assembly.

We would also like to express our deep appreciation to H.E. Mr. Tommo Monthe, the outgoing Chairman, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Cameroon, as well as to the other members of the previous Bureau, for their commendable work during the 66th session.

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Sri Lanka aligns itself with the statement made by Algeria on behalf of the G77 and China. We would like to thank the Chairperson of the Committee on Contributions, for introducing the report of the Seventy-Second session of the Committee on Contributions. We would also like to thank the Director of the Accounts Division, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, for introducing the report of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans. We value the important work undertaken by the Committee on Contributions and the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts.

Mr. Chairman,

Our Delegation would like to stress the importance of providing adequate financial resources to this Organization, our United Nations, in order for it to carry out its legislative mandates. The mandates have been provided by us after detailed consideration and they must be implemented. Any inclination to implement mandates selectively must also be resisted. Adequate resources must be provided. Without the adequate resources, the Organization cannot be expected to implement its mandates effectively. Therefore we would like to stress that all Member States fulfill their legal obligations to contribute their assessed dues to meet the expenses of the Organization, in accordance with the Charter, in full, on time, and without conditions, so that this organization can function smoothly.

It is also important that the Secretariat utilize the resources received from the Member States effectively, while cutting costs wherever possible, but without affecting its ability to implement

its mandates. The goal must be to aim for a more effective and efficient organization from which all the Member States benefit. Tangible and effective results must be our goal.

We also recognize that there are some developing countries that face genuine difficulties that prevent them from temporarily meeting their financial obligations. These situations should be examined individually consistent with article 19 of the Charter.

Mr. Chairman,

As underlined in the Ministerial Declaration of G77 and China, our delegation would like to emphasize that the current methodology for determining the scale of assessments is a reflection of the relative economic circumstances of the United Nation's Member States. We would like to reaffirm the principle of "capacity to pay" as the fundamental criterion in the apportionment of dues. We reject any changes to the elements of the current methodology for the preparation of the scale of assessments aimed at increasing the contributions of developing countries. The capacity to pay is a fundamental principle.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, we would like to reaffirm our view that the Fifth Committee should be the sole Main Committee of the UN with responsibility for administrative, financial and budgetary matters. Any matters related to budgetary, financial and administrative matters should only be discussed within the framework of the Fifth Committee.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.