

Statement

by

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Fifth Committee**

**Item 134: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the
expenses of the United Nations**

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- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

Mr. Chairman,

At the beginning, our Delegation wishes to thank Mr Bernardo Greiver, Chairman of the Committee on Contribution for presenting the Committee's report of its 72nd session. And also, we would like to thank Mr.Lionel Berridge , Chief of the Contributions for introducing the report of the Secretariat on multi years payment plan.

Mr. Chairman,

It is our firm belief that the scales for the regular budget should reflect a fair and balanced distribution of the financial responsibilities among Member States. In this respect, the key principle for the assessment of member states` contribution should be capacity to pay.

However, although the current methodology is based on this main principle, with the passage of time, several adjustments have been introduced to the methodology by creating certain distortions. For this reason, as per Resolution 64/248, the General Assembly decided to review all elements of current methodology of the scale of assessment. Unfortunately, there has been no progress so far even though there is an immediate need for the enhancement of the current methodology by addressing several elements that are leading to unfair distortion.

Mr. Chairman,

As we all know, Member States have naturally divergent views on the several adjustment elements of the methodology. So that, in the last session, Fifth Committee could not reach a consensus in an environment of counter contradicting arguments. In order to facilitate the member states effort to attain a common understanding, we believe that each member state should embrace a constructive and open dialog conducive to a sound, sustainable and a fair scale of assessment methodology.

Mr. Chairman

The UN cannot implement its mission effectively without sufficient resources. Thus, we believe that all member states should meet their financial obligations and pay their contributions in full and on time to commit the expenses of the Organization. We have been currently contributing at a fair rate and we always fully and timely honour our contribution obligations. As an emerging economy, we also believe that evolving economic strength of the countries should be appropriately reflected in the scale of assessment process in accordance with the principle of capacity to pay. In this sense, our contribution obligation is expected to be increased by two folds in line with our economic dynamics and we are ready to meet our increased contribution in coming terms. However, due to specific characteristics of Low Per Capita Income Adjustment element of the current methodology, we face a large scale to scale increase in our assessment rate. In line with the paragraph 86 of the Report of the Committee on Contributions (67/11), we

request a review of the modalities for provision of a temporary relief for member states facing large scale to scale increase. Thus, we can smooth the negative implications of the abrupt significant increases on the national budgets through the introduction of a certain ceiling for one time increase. In our opinion, adoption of such a phasing approach provides only a transitional relief for a restricted period of time thus never creates a persistent distortion in the system.

Mr. Chairman,

We are glad to observe the declining trend in the numbers of the requests for exemption under Article 19. It is a fundamental duty of each Member States of this Organisation to make the payment of assessed contributions in full, on time and without condition. We encourage further efforts in order to reduce unpaid assessed contributions by the concerned Member States. In this regard, we support voluntary implementation of multi-year payment plans as an effective tool to help Member States reduce their unpaid assessed contributions.

Nevertheless, we acknowledge that due to the on-going global economic and financial situation, some Member States may face real difficulties in fulfilling their financial obligations to the UN. For this reason, we look forward to endorse the recommendations of the Committee on Contribution (CoC) to permit the countries who requested exemption under Article 19 to vote in the General Assembly; (Central African Republic, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia.)

Mr. Chairman

In closing, let me assure you that our delegation looks forward to participating in coming negotiations in a cooperative and constructive manner.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.