

## Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 (A/67/224)

Agenda item 145: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

Statement by Chandramouli Ramanathan, Deputy Controller Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its 67<sup>th</sup> session

## 9 October 2012

Mr. Chairman,

The report before you addresses the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236.

The Committee will recall that, by resolution 55/235, the General Assembly established a new system of adjustments of regular budget scale rates in determining Member States' rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations. This system was based on a number of criteria, including average per capita gross national income (GNI), to place each Member State in a contribution level. In accordance with these criteria, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to update the composition within the established levels on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, and to report thereon to the Assembly. By the same resolution, the Assembly decided that the overall structure of contribution levels would be reviewed after nine years.

In establishing the system, the General Assembly decided, also by resolution 55/235, that Member States would be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they were eligible, unless they indicated a decision to move to a higher level. By its resolution 55/236, the General Assembly welcomed the voluntary commitment of a number of Member States to contribute to peacekeeping operations at a rate higher than required by their per capita income.

Following its review at the sixty-fourth session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/249, reaffirmed the principles set out in resolution 55/235. The Assembly also recognized the concerns raised by Member States, including Bahrain and the Bahamas, regarding the structure of the levels for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations and decided to review the structure of the levels with a view to a decision, if agreed, no later than at its sixty-seventh session.

By the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue updating the composition of the levels on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the established criteria, and to report thereon to the Assembly. The report before you has been prepared pursuant to this request.

On the basis of the provisions of resolution 55/235 and the practice adopted by the General Assembly for the composition of levels for the period 2001-2003, the Secretary-General has subsequently updated the composition of levels for the periods 2004-2006, 2007-2009 and 2010-2012 using the average data on GNI for the six-year base period used by the Committee on Contributions in considering the scale of assessments for those periods.

Accordingly, data for the six-year period 2005-2010 were used in updating the composition of levels for the period 2013-2015. The composition of levels was updated based on the provisions of resolution 55/235 and each Member State's average per capita GNI for 2005-2010 in relation to the membership average of \$8,337.50.

The updated composition of levels, subject to adjustments arising from the General Assembly's review of the structure of contribution levels, would be used together with the scale of assessments for 2013-2015 to establish each Member State's peacekeeping rate of assessment. Last week, the General Assembly began its consideration of the scale of assessments for the period 2013-2015. Until a new regular budget scale is adopted, it will not be possible to determine the corresponding rates of assessment for peacekeeping for the period 2013-2015. However, in order to facilitate the General Assembly's review of the structure of contribution levels for peacekeeping operations, document A/67/224 presents the peacekeeping rates of assessment corresponding to the scale of assessments for the period 2013-2015 included for information in the report of the Committee on Contributions.

As regards the current period, the Committee will recall that South Sudan was admitted to membership in the United Nations on 14 July 2011. The Committee on Contributions recommended to the Assembly that the regular budget rate of assessment of South Sudan be established at 0.003 per cent for 2011 and 2012. In order to determine the rate of assessment for peacekeeping operations, the Assembly will also need to decide on the contribution level for South Sudan for 2011 and 2012

Thank you.

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