



**Statement on behalf of the Member States
of the European Union**

By

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Fifth Committee

**Item 145: Scale of assessments for the apportionment
of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations**

United Nations

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Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the European Union.

The Acceding Country Croatia*, the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Iceland+ and Serbia*, and the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this declaration.

At the outset, I wish to thank the Deputy Controller, Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, for the presentation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236.

Mr. Chairman,

The Member States of the European Union actively support and participate in UN mandated peacekeeping operations and other relevant activities throughout the world, and contribute with troops, civilian police and other personnel, as well as financially. We have always attached great importance to peacekeeping as a core task of the Organization and will continue to do what is necessary to ensure that UN peacekeeping is effective and serves the need of maintaining peace and security. The Member States of the European Union remain committed to providing adequate and efficient financial backing for UN peacekeeping operations.

The reform of the peacekeeping rates of assessments in 2000 was aimed at providing an equitable and therefore stable and sustainable financial basis for this essential task of the Organisation.

* Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

Mr. Chairman,

Funding the Organisation is the joint responsibility of the whole membership and is essential to its effective functioning. As the largest collective financial contributors to the Organisation, we want to reiterate the importance of making the right decisions on the scales of assessments both for the regular budget and for peacekeeping operations, thereby ensuring the sustainability of the Organisation in line with our vision of a strong and efficient UN at the apex of the international system, as reaffirmed by the Foreign Ministers of the EU Member States in their statement of 23 July.

Mr. Chairman,

The peacekeeping rates of assessments should reflect capacity to pay and the special responsibility of the permanent members of the Security Council. In addition the peacekeeping rates of assessments should be organised in such a way that all member states are incentivised to take responsibility for the effective management and responsible budgeting of peacekeeping missions. The level of surcharge and contributions should be sustainable.

The Member States of the European Union stand ready to review the structure of contribution levels of the peacekeeping operations rates of assessment, as reflected in GA resolution 55/235, in the light of the above mentioned principles. It is essential that any discounts in the scale rates for peacekeeping operations be based on objective and comparable criteria, which is currently not the case, for example, for Level C. A fresh and pertinent analysis could prove beneficial in ensuring that the scale better reflects the principle of capacity to pay.

More broadly, the EU Member States would welcome offers from UN members in all levels to move voluntarily up in their level of contribution, following the precedents of a number of countries among us.

Mr. Chairman,

In concluding, I would like to assure you and the other members of this Committee of our readiness to cooperate and engage positively in the negotiations.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.