

**MISSION PERMANENTE
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE
AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES**



800 SECOND AVENUE, 5th FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10017
TEL: (646) 649-5061
FAX: (646) 781-9974

STATEMENT

**on behalf of the African Group by Mr. Brouz Ralph COFFI, Counselor at the Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations, on the Programme of Work, at the main
part of the sixty-seventh session of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly**

(New York, 4 October 2012)

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group on the organization of the work of the Fifth Committee during the main part of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly. The African group fully aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and would like to make the following additional comments.

Mr. Chairman,

The African Group congratulates you, H.E. Mr. Miguel Berger, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, on your election as Chairman for the Bureau of the Fifth Committee. The Group also congratulates the other members of the Bureau on their election. We also wish to express our deep appreciation to the Bureau for the 66th session which was chaired by H.E. Mr. Michel Tommo Monthé, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations, for expertly guiding the work of the Committee during the last session.

With regard to the organization of the work of the Fifth Committee for the main part of the sixty-seventh session, the African Group would like to thank the Bureau for preparing the Programme of work and welcomes the designation of coordinators to facilitate, on behalf of the Chair of the Bureau of the Committee, the various agenda items that are to be considered during this session.

However, The Group expresses serious concern on the late issuance of documents which impede the timely consideration by the Fifth Committee of very important agenda items as noted in the draft Programme of work prepared by the Bureau.

The African Group recalls article 10, 15 and 17 of the United Nations Charter and requests the Secretariat to provide detailed information on the reasons of the late issuance of documents for the 67th session, beginning by the author departments role in this situation and also the impact of the cut of nightshift, weekend work and posts in the printing services.

Mr. Chairman,

The Fifth Committee is expected during this session to deal with over 141 documents and 19 agenda items, with 66 documents which are not yet been issued. The late issuance of documents therefore constitutes a major challenge that this Committee continues to face and there is an urgent need to find a lasting solution to this specific situation.

The African Group is therefore deeply concerned that many reports are yet to be issued and neither have the dates of issuance been provided. To facilitate the effective discharge of the mandate of this Committee and to ensure that each agenda item is given proper consideration, it is important that all the pending reports are issued expeditiously in all the United Nations official language.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, the African Group reiterates its long-standing position that the work of this Committee should be conducted in an open, transparent and all inclusive manner. The Group therefore wishes to assure you of its readiness to engage constructively with other delegations, with a view to achieving a positive outcome on all agenda items. I thank you.