



PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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STATEMENT BY THE CUBAN DELEGATION TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. FIRST RESUMED SESSION OF THE 67TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. AGENDA ITEM: *ORGANIZATION OF WORK*. NEW YORK, 4 MARCH 2013.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation endorses the statements made by the G-77 and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

My delegation joins other delegations in expressing its sincere appreciation to you for your stewardship of the work of our Committee during this session. Thanks to your efforts, determination and leadership capacity, we were able to reach conclusions acceptable to all. We likewise acknowledge the role of the other members of the Bureau. We reiterate our full support to you all.

We appreciate the preparation of the programme of work and thank the Secretariat for preparing document A/C.5/67/L.21 on the status of preparedness of documentation.

Mr. Chairman,

The Fifth Committee is supposed to function as efficiently as required by the processes and management of the Secretariat. We are also supposed to be an example of efficiency in using human and financial resources at our disposal. However, the last session of our Committee showed serious deficiencies in our management. The intentions of some Member States to reform the Organization or some of its main processes, such as administrative and budgetary processes, or to change delicately balanced decisions, out of context, are some of the main causes of this situation. We are concerned about this, and about the introduction of a set of provisions that violate the rights of the greatest resource of this Organization: its staff.

The Secretariat's submission of insufficiently prepared proposals on substantive issues, as well as the long delay in submitting documents in all official languages, which is a recurring inefficiency that is inconsistent with General Assembly requests and decisions on document submissions, equally affected our legislative capacity.

In a world of lessons learned, all Member States should show enough political will to avoid repetition of such mistakes and contribute to the effectiveness of our Committee's deliberative process, starting with this first resumed session. The Secretariat must also fulfill its obligations on document submissions and address, in a timely and comprehensive manner, all Member States' requests for additional information.

To increase our effectiveness, it is also imperative to enhance the transparency of our deliberative process. The holding of all negotiations at United Nations Headquarters, open to the participation of all Member States and without overlapping of negotiation processes, is key to that transparency. My delegation requests the Bureau to take these elements into consideration when preparing the programme of work.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation takes note with concern of the proliferation of informal meetings to interact with the Secretariat, to the detriment of formal procedures. While my delegation does not object to the holding of that kind of meetings, it considers they are a complement to, not a replacement for formal meetings. This type of interaction with the Secretariat and the flow of information it involves should be reflected in the records of the Committee, to serve as a reference for delegations and as the institutional memory of this organ.

To conclude, my delegation requests the Bureau to convene a formal meeting with the Secretariat to update Member States on the implementation of resolution 67/247 on the programme budget. That is essential, in our view, considering the huge challenges and important mandates Member States have given to the United Nations.

I reiterate to you, Mr. Chairman, the support of my delegation for the successful conclusion of the work and the effective functioning of our Committee.

Thank you.