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**Statement by Isobel Coleman,
Ambassador for United Nations Management & Reform
At the Closing of the First Resumed Session of the Fifth Committee
69th General Assembly
March 27, 2015**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First, allow me to congratulate you and our fellow Fifth Committee colleagues for concluding so many consequential items on time and with such a responsible and accommodating spirit. It is a testament to your leadership and our collective will to work better, and I very much hope that spirit continues through the remainder of the year. If it does, the consensus decisions we take together will make the Organization a better and stronger one for years to come.

Mr. Chairman,

Second, allow me to highlight some of our notable successes this session. In the Capital Master Plan, we closed the project ten years after its start with a responsible burden-sharing arrangement for final costs. In Umoja, we provided the Secretary-General with the funding and personnel needed to make the Organization more efficient and effective. In re-costing, we gave the Secretary-General new tools to make budgets more predictable. In flexible workspace strategies, we gave the Organization the ability to improve productivity while making more efficient use of office space. In procurement, we gave the Secretary-General guidance to continue modernizing and increasing competition in procurement processes across the Organization for the first time in seven years. And finally, while we did not conclude HRM, the negotiation highlighted important areas of improvement that will guide our discussions on these issues in the years to come.

Mr. Chairman,

In closing, allow me to recognize a couple of colleagues, Mr. Bjorn Bekken of Norway and Mr. Morgan Larhant of France, who will not be with us after this session. We wish them the very best in their next endeavors.

I hope all colleagues enjoy a well-deserved weekend and we look forward to a hopefully equally productive second resumed session.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.