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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**H.E. AMBASSADOR AMAN HASSEN,**

**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL**

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA,**

**AT THE 5TH COMMITTEE OF THE 69TH SESSION**

**OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SECOND RESUMED**

**SESSION ON AGENDA ITEM 149: BUDGET PERFORMANCE**

**FOR UNISFA FOR THE PERIOD FROM**

**1JULY 2013-30JUNE 2014 AND**

**THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1JULY 2015-30JUNE 2016**

**NEW YORK MAY 6, 2015**

**Mr. Chairman,**

My delegation would like to thank **Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, Assistant Secretary-General**, for introducing the Secretary-General's report on the budget performance of the **United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)** for the period from **July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014** and the proposed budget for **July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016** contained in **A/69/611** and **A/69/740**, respectively. Our appreciation also goes to **Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massie, Chairperson of the ACABQ**, for introducing the related report of the Committee contained in **A/69/839 Add.16**. My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Algeria on behalf of the African Group.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Since UNISFA's deployment to the Abyei Area in 2011, it has been successfully engaged to help the safe return of inhabitants, ensured the protection of civilians, and has been supporting the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism. During the **2013/14** budget performance, UNISFA maintained a stable security environment by facilitating the return of internally displaced persons and refugees to the Abyei Area and Abyei town. It also disarmed individuals carrying weapons in the Abyei Area and engaged armed groups to withdraw from the Area. Pending the establishment of the Abyei Area temporary institutions, UNISFA has made every effort to maintain a stable security environment and to safeguard the protection of civilians through its multifaceted conflict prevention and mitigation strategy. As a result there has not been an outbreak of a large-scale of inter communal violence. This task was accomplished despite the continuing tensions between the communities and by paying an ultimate sacrifices, at times.

**Mr. Chairman,**

My Delegation took note of UNISFA's expenditure of **\$255.4 million** for the reporting period, representing a resource utilization rate of **77.6 per cent** (compared with **\$257.8 million** in expenditure in the prior period, for a

resourceutilization rate of **99.97 per cent**). In this regard efforts should be made to improve the utilization of resources in the coming years. With regard to the budget for **2015/16**, the **Secretary General** proposed **\$279,920,400** that calls for a reduction of **\$39,004,800**, or **12.2 per cent** compared with the **2014/15** budget. As per the Secretary-General's report, one of the areas that needs less amount of resources is construction and acquisition of facilities and infrastructure equipment. In My delegation's view, this proposal might not have taken fully the problems faced by the Mission. The General Assembly has repeatedly requested the Security-General to make every effort to ensure that all construction projects are completed in a timely manner. Despite this, little progress has been made in implementing the request of the General Assembly. This being the case, deducting **\$21,867,800** or **48.3 per cent** from facilities and infrastructure will put in danger the safety and security of the personnel in the Mission.

**Mr.Chairman,**

My Delegation has difficulty to accept the assumption by the Secretary-General that there would be less demand for alteration, renovation and acquisition of prefabricated facilities in 2015/16. We can not also share the expectation held to complete the construction of major camps by the end of the 2014/15 period. This is simply because of the fact that it contradicts with the past performance of the Mission. The performance reports of the Secretary-General over the past three years have clearly shown that hardly none of the basic facilities were completed on schedule. Given the fact that the Mission has been facing serious logistical and other challenges right from its inception, and the low rate of implementation of construction projects, it is unwise to deduct resources especially in the area of facilities and construction. It is our opinion that this proposal need to be revisited taking into consideration the objective reality in the area of operation.

Finally, **Mr.Chairman**, my delegation is ready to engage constructively during the informal negotiations on this important agenda item.

**I thank you!**