



THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by Ms. OH, Young-ju

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Fifth Committee of the 70th Session of the General Assembly

Conclusion of work of the main part of the 70th General Assembly

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

1. I would first like to welcome the adoption of the resolutions today. I also would like to express our sincere appreciation for your tireless efforts and able leadership to lead the work of this committee to a successful conclusion. My thanks also goes to the Bureau members and the Secretary of the committee and her team who have provided assistance to the Committee and close communication with the Member States for their hard work and valuable support.
2. I am really glad to see that as a result of intensive discussion and collective efforts of all Member States, the committee reached agreement on most outstanding issues by consensus. Before the session get started, all of us worried about coming hectic work and tough negotiation, recalling a bitter memory of the nightmare on Christmas eve last year because we had a lot of contentious issues such as scale of assessment, proposed biennium budget and common system before us.

However, Mr. Chairman, we have a dedicated leadership, collective wisdom across Member States and Secretariat and more importantly, empowered and devoted experts who have been working day and night in conference room 5. I would really love to praise our experts highly to have completed this hard and valuable work on the expert level in a timely manner. I am convinced again that dialogue, partnership and agreement are the most effective way to guarantee sustainability of this deliberative body, particularly the 5th committee. I really hope the committee to continue and strengthen this good practice of working method as well as long standing 'consensus' tradition of the committee.

3. Mr. Chairman, turning to outcome the Committee achieves today, I believe that we make significant contributions to this organization.

We decided the scale of assessment for 2016-18 which will be the foundation on the financial sustainability of the organization.

We approved an appropriate level of biennium budget through efficiency from various reforms while ensuring the effective implementation of mandate and also provided the resources for the start of implementation of 2030 sustainable development agenda.

We also modernized the compensation package of the UN staff that has not been modified for 25 years in order to enhance its transparency as well as sustainability.

What we have done, I believe, must be the foundation of stronger and better UN.

4. Mr. Chairman, last but not the least, I thank you and all colleagues again for allowing me to spend a long Christmas holiday away from the work. I wish you and your family all the best. Merry Christmas and happy new year. Thank you.