

UNITED NATIONS



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Agenda item 134
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

Review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund (A/70/395)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller
10 November 2015

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honor to introduce the Secretary General's report on the review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund.
2. The report describes the background of the creation of the fund for the 1990-1991 biennium, the size of the fund over the past 14 biennia, and its utilization. The fund continues to be set at 0.75 percent of the overall level of resources approved in the context of the budget outline, having reached \$41.7 million for the 2016-2017 biennium.
3. Although the utilization of the fund has remained within the approved levels, recent experience indicates that in a number of cases, additional appropriations were approved outside of the contingency fund, specifically for 2006-2007, 2012-2013 and 2014-2015.
4. The General Assembly has thus shown a degree of flexibility with regard to the concept of the Contingency Fund as a funding cap. Where it has determined that additional

mandates require more funding, it has appropriated additional amounts. This is shown on Table 1 of the report.

5. Table 2 shows the categories of reports that contained charges against the contingency fund during the last 4 biennia, most recently in the areas of human rights, program budget implications and supplementary budget requirements.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I look forward to the discussions on this item.