



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE  
ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
NATIONS BY KAREN TAN, PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
SINGAPORE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON  
AGENDA ITEM 134: PROPOSED PROGRAMME  
BUDGET BIENNIUM 2016-2017 – SPECIAL  
POLITICAL MISSIONS, FIFTH COMMITTEE, 8  
DECEMBER 2015**

1 Thank you Mr Chairman. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on this agenda item.

2 I thank Ms Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, Assistant Secretary-General and Controller, for introducing the chapeau of the Secretary-General's report on estimates in respect of special political missions (SPMs). We also thank Mr Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), for introducing the ACABQ's report on the same.

3 ASEAN Member States addressed the issue of funding and backstopping of SPMs in the Fifth Committee's formal meeting of 4 November. Our views have not changed. We reaffirm our support for the funding and backstopping recommendations proposed by the ACABQ, including the creation of a separate account aligned with the budgetary cycle for peacekeeping operations. We reiterate our call for Member States to set aside their political differences and to produce a holistic solution that is in the best interests of SPMs.

4 ASEAN Member States are ready to participate in an open and frank dialogue on how to achieve this outcome.

5 Thank you, Mr Chairman.

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