

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**



**STATEMENT**  
by  
**THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF**  
**TURKEY**  
**TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**8 December 2015, New York**

## **Agenda item 134**

### **Proposed programme budget for biennium 2016-2017**

#### **Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council**

**(A/70/348 and A/70/7/Add.10)**

#### **FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor at a formal meeting of the Fifth Committee during the current session, I would like to congratulate you on your election and extend our appreciation to the bureau of the Committee. You have the support of my delegation to ensure a successful conclusion of the work of the Committee.

Let me thank the distinguished officials that are with us today to present the reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on this important agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

Over the past years, the international peace and security landscape has deteriorated rapidly. In addressing today's increasingly complex and unpredictable security challenges, the United Nations has increasingly come to utilise Special Political Missions. There are currently 36 political missions.

In the meantime, their financial volume has expanded exponentially, as has the number of the staff on the ground. The provision for special political missions has increased, from an initial appropriation of 86 million US Dollar in 2000-2001 programme budget to a revised appropriation of 1.2 billion in the 2010-2011 programme budget, with the share of resources allocated special political missions growing from 6 percent of the 2000-2001 programme budget to over 20 percent in 2010-2011.

In this regard, although current financing arrangements of Special Political Missions have proven serviceable in the past, Turkey is of the view that they are no longer optimal and sustainable. We need a funding framework that better accommodates the volatility and unpredictability of their resource requirements than does the programme budget, and to enhance their rapid response capability.

Therefore, it is time to think about financial adjustments or even establishing new financial mechanisms. A special and separate account for the funding of special political missions that

would be budgeted, funded and reported upon on an annual basis appears to be the only viable option in this regard.

Accordingly, Turkey is committed to continue to the discussion of this important agenda item in a constructive way in order to reach a comprehensive solution.

Thank you very much.