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Agenda item 138

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Multi-year payment plans (A/70/69)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by
Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

8 October 2015

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honor to introduce the report of the Secretary General on multi-year payment plans, as contained in Document A/70/69. This is the thirteenth annual report on the status of multi-year payment plans.
2. Over the years since the introduction of the system, six Member States have successfully implemented multi-year payment plans, enabling them to pay in full their assessed contributions. We are grateful for their commitment to meeting their financial obligations to the United Nations. The system gives due consideration to the economic position of Member States, and remains voluntary in nature. While encouraged, payments plans are not necessarily required if a Member State in arrears wishes to request restoration of voting rights under Article 19.
3. The remaining plan was submitted by Sao Tome and Principe in 2002. The report before the Committee contains the status of its implementation as at 31 December 2014. Sao Tome and Principe made a subsequent payment in June 2015, which was reported to the Committee on Contributions during the course of its June 2015 session.
6. No new payment plans have been submitted in recent years, although several Member States have indicated that the matter was under consideration.
7. The Committee may wish to take note of the report of the Secretary-General.

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

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Agenda item 147

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 (A/70/331)

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by
Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller

8 October 2015

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates,

1. I have the honor to introduce the report of the Secretary General on the Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236, referring to the scale of assessment of peacekeeping operations, as contained in document A/70/331.
2. Resolution 55/235 established a new system, whereby the rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations are based on the regular budget rates. This system was based on a number of criteria, including average per capita gross national income (GNI), which is used to place each Member State in a contribution level. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to update the list of countries in each contribution level every three years, in conjunction with the review of the regular budget scale of assessment.
3. In establishing the system, the General Assembly decided, also by resolution 55/235, that Member States with the lowest levels of per capita gross national product would receive the highest discount in the peacekeeping scale, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level.
4. By its resolution 55/236, the General Assembly welcomed the voluntary commitment of a number of Member States to contribute to peacekeeping operations at a rate higher than required by their per capita income.
5. The rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations were last considered at the sixty-seventh session. The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/239, reaffirmed the principles set out in resolution 55/235. The Assembly also recognized the need to reform the current methodology for

apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations and decided to review the structure of the levels during its seventieth session.

6. Pursuant to the General Assembly request, the report before you updates the composition of the contributions levels in accordance with the established criteria, and in conjunction with the review of the regular budget scale of assessment.

7. The updated composition of levels, subject to any adjustments that may arise from the General Assembly's review, would then be used to establish each Member State's peacekeeping rate of assessment for the period 2016-2018.

8. The effective rates will only be determined once a new regular budget scale is adopted. For illustrative purposes Annex III of the present report includes a table using the existing structure of contribution levels.

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