



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Translation

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Statement by Counselor Fu, Daopeng of the Chinese Mission at the Fifth
Committee of the 71st GA under Item 136: "Improving the Financial
Situation of the United Nations"

Oct. 13, 2016

Madam Chair,

The Chinese delegation wishes to thank ASG Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, Controller of the UN, for her presentation of the financial situation of the Organization. We align ourselves with the statement made by Thailand on behalf of G77 and China and would like to make the following observations and proposals regarding the financial situation of the United Nations.

Madam Chair,

1. Financial resources are the basis and an important buttress for the UN to perform its functions and fulfil its role. According to the presentation of the ASG, the current financial situation of the UN is sound on the whole. We are pleased to note that as of Sept. 30, 126 member states have paid their

assessed contributions under the regular budget in full and 25 member states have paid their peacekeeping assessments in full. It is worrying, however, that by Sept. 30, the total amount of member states' arrears to the regular budget and peacekeeping budget reached 3.43 billion US dollars, of which arrears to the regular budget was 1.189 billion US dollars and that to the peacekeeping budget 2.341 billion US dollars, both higher than the same time last year.

2. We are particularly concerned that the regular budget now has a cash gap of 344 million US dollars, which is far bigger than both the same time last year and the end of last year. If there is no improvement soon, the cash crunch will further worsen by the end of the year.

3. We call on all member states to effectively honor their financial obligations by paying all their assessments on time, in full and without any conditions, thus providing a solid financial basis for the UN in its effort to implement its various mandates. Countries with the capabilities, especially developed countries at the higher end of the scales of assessments, need to pay in full their arrears as soon as possible.

4. With regard to developing countries experiencing economic and financial hardships, the LDCs in particular, China understands their difficulties and supports the GA in accommodating their situation in accordance with Article 19 of the UN Charter.

Madam Chair,

5. While China has managed to maintain a relatively high economic growth rate in recent years, it is also faced with daunting and complex internal and external challenges that have put a heavy downward pressure on its economy and sharply increased the need for financial resources in economic development, livelihood improvement and poverty reduction. 2016 is the first year of the new scale of assessments, which saw the increase of China's contribution by 54%, from 5.148% of the regular budget to 7.921%. Still, China continues to actively implement its financial obligation to the UN and has paid all its assessments on time and in full, demonstrating its firm support for the UN.

Madam Chair,

6. Strengthening and improving budget management constitute an important guarantee for the improvement of the efficiency of the use of the UN's financial resources. We hope that the Secretariat will continue to strengthen budget management, formulate the budget in a scientific and rational way, optimize the budget expenditure structure and put more resources in the area of development and areas of concern to the developing countries.

7. At the same time, the Secretariat should strictly implement financial discipline, enhance oversight and accountability, practice economy and improve the efficiency of resource utilization to put to good use every penny of the taxpayers of the member states.

Thank you, Madam Chair.