

**Statement by the delegation of Brazil on Agenda Item 149: Administrative & budgetary aspects of financing UN PKOs: Cross-cutting issues – Overview, at the second resumed part of the Seventy-First Session of the Fifth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly.**

**New York, 9 May 2017.**

Madam Chair,

At the outset, my delegation would like to pay its respects to the thousands of United Nations peacekeepers currently deployed around the world, particularly those who have sacrificed life and limb for the ideals of the Charter.

Brazil associates itself with the statement made by the distinguished delegate of Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

My delegation would like to thank Mr. Atul Khare, Undersecretary-General for Field Support, and Ms. Maria Costa, Director of the Peacekeeping Finance Division, for presenting report A/71/809. We would also like to thank Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for presenting report A/71/836.

Madam Chair,

As an unwavering supporter of peacekeeping operations, Brazil welcomes the announcement by the Secretary-General about the reform of the United Nations peace and security strategy and looks forward to considering his proposals in the near future.

Brazil supports the six priorities outlined in the overview report, and attaches special importance to the objective of bolstering the Organization's capacity to support political solutions. In particular, my delegation stresses the positive role played by programmatic activities in helping create the conditions for sustainable peace, as pointed out by the High Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations.

Madam Chair,

Peacekeeping requires the best human and material resources possible. Brazil emphasizes the significance of ensuring civilian and uniformed capabilities for mandate delivery in complex and dangerous environments.

First and foremost, this requires providing for the safety and security of troops, police and civilian personnel on the ground with appropriate equipment and conditions. But it also requires better policies starting at Headquarters.

The Security Council and the Secretariat have yet to adequately reflect the perspective of troop- and police-contributing countries, whose service entitles them to have a greater say in the structure of peacekeeping. The positive impact of quick impact projects on mandate delivery in several missions testifies to the beneficial effect of increased participation of troop- and police-contributing countries in the decision making process. The persistent gender imbalance in the staffing of peacekeeping missions, in particular at higher echelons, is also an issue of serious concern.

Madam Chair,

The Organization needs to address all issues that can weaken its credibility as a broker of peace.

My delegation endorses the Secretary-General's vision of the do no harm principle with regard to peacekeeping operations. Brazil is adamant about combating sexual exploitation and abuse within the United Nations, and welcomes the victim-centered approach and the Secretary-General's focus on preventive measures.

My delegation further endorses the Secretary-General's efforts to achieve maximum efficiency in the use of natural resources in peacekeeping missions, in order to minimize the risk to people, societies and ecosystems in which they operate.

Madam Chair,

Brazil supports a permanent assessment of how to make peacekeeping missions more fit for purpose, as well as a clear definition of their exit strategies. But reforming peacekeeping operations should not mean deforming them.

The formulation of each peacekeeping budget must be based on the mandate of the mission and on the situation in the field. Across-the-board cost-cutting exercises would be an ill-conceived approach towards attaining more efficient, effective and sustainable peacekeeping operations. My delegation reiterates its readiness to engage in constructive negotiations during this session.

Thank you, Madam Chair.