



<Kindly Check Against Delivery>

STATEMENT

BY Mr. MÁRCIO BURITY, THIRD SECRETARY OF PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE, DURING THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTIETH FIRST SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY - FIFTH COMMITTEE [New York 29 September, 2016]

Madam Chair,

Allow me to start by congratulating you Ambassador Inga Ronda King upon your election as Chairwoman of the Fifth Committee. Of course, we would also like to congratulate all other members of the Bureau upon their election. We have a difficult task ahead, but we are confident that with your guidance, experience and under your skillful leadership, these important negotiations will reach a fruitful conclusion.

We also want to express our gratitude to your predecessor, Ambassador Durga Prasad Bhattarai, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, for the extraordinary and exemplary way in which he guided our work at last session and extend our deep appreciation to the outgoing Bureau for the excellent work done in the 70th session.

The last Session has again proved that by respecting the existing mechanisms for negotiations, and the sovereign right of every Member State to pronounce on budgetary and administrative matters, we are able to adopt decisions that are in the interest of the entire Organization. My delegation also looks forward to continuing the positive atmosphere in which we ended the second resumed session in June of this year, by engaging constructively and carefully considering the concerns and views of all delegations.

Madam Chair,

Member States will be required to consider hundreds of reports running into thousands of pages in the next three months. It is therefore crucial for the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee to ensure that Member States receive the reports well in advance. For as much as we appreciate the efforts by the Secretariat to deal with the number of demands before it, we wish to stress that the ability of Member States to consider the reports and to adequately prepare for the negotiations is being undermined by the late issuance of reports.

My delegation would like to take this opportunity to provide some comments regarding the heavy agenda before us. These are for the most part preliminary observations given the delayed issuance of many documents, including the reports of the Secretary General and Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Contingency fund, as well as the Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors of the agenda items scheduled for consideration. Unfortunately, we are still witnessing, once again, a situation where the issuance of reports is determining the priorities for Member States and thus the Committee's programme of work.

Over this Session, my delegation will, pay close attention, to among others, the budget performance, programme budget outline for next biennium and related special subjects including pension system, capital projects at the Economic Commission for Africa and in Genevathe SHP, Global Service Delivery Model, and financing Special Political Missions including the questions of separate account/funding and backstopping arrangement.

We also wish that all negotiations and deliberations be conducted in an open, inclusive and transparent manner, and also wish to stress again to caution against packages conceived in small configurations.

Madam Chair,

Regarding the scale of assessment on the apportionment of expenses of the United Nations, specifically Article 19 of the Charter, Angola feels that it is important to take a speedy decision on this matter to allow the concerned Member States to exercise their right to vote and fully participate in the General Assembly's work. We believe that the Committee will conclude the informal on this matter today.

Last but not least, my delegation fully supports the statement made by Group of 77 and China and African Group and will therefore be engaged in the discussions in a positive and constructive manner and looks forward to working with all other delegations toward achieving consensus agreement on all the items by the scheduled end of this session.

I thank you Madam Chair.