

Statement of the Chairman

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)

12 March 2019

**Progress in the implementation of the organizational resilience management system
(A/73/666)**

(ACABQ report: A/73/775; related report: A/73/666)

Madam Chair,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on the Progress in the implementation of the organizational resilience management system.

The Advisory Committee welcomes the efforts made in applying the principles of the organizational resilience management system across the United Nations system and looks forward to an update in the next progress report.

As regards the current policy, the Advisory Committee welcomes the intention of the inter-agency community of practice to review the policy while noting the need to develop guidelines on organizational resilience. The Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will develop clear rating scales for the key performance indicators in order to ensure consistency and coherence in implementation. The Committee also recommends that future policy guidelines integrate maintenance and practice exercises through information, briefings and use of regular practice drills.

In terms of the governance structure at United Nations Headquarters, the Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will continue his efforts to strengthen the

coordination and planning functions of the Senior Emergency Policy Team and the Crisis Operations Group in the light of the redistribution of responsibilities regarding the management of emergency and crisis situations between the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and the Department of Operational Support and the incorporation of the resident coordinator system within the Secretariat. The Committee is of the view that strategic and operational roles and responsibilities pertaining to emergency response requirements should be clarified further to ensure a full and effective response to arising critical situations, considering that the response to crises had previously been unified under one department in the Secretariat.

As regards future developments, the Committee trusts that the best practices and experiences in risk management and organizational resilience management will be consolidated and applied by the United Nations Secretariat. The Committee reiterates its recommendation that efforts continue to be made to coordinate and integrate the organizational resilience management system with the overall risk management framework of the Organization. The Committee also recommends that the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, continue efforts to harmonize policies and strengthen coordination of the organizational resilience management system across the system. Given the importance of training core staff on matters relating to organizational resilience, while acknowledging the efforts to develop a joint learning programme, the Committee recommends that critical training courses such as business continuity be prioritized in training programmes from within existing resources.

Thank you, Madam Chair.