

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

350 EAST 35TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10016 http://www.china-un.org

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Statement by Counselor Daopeng FU of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations at the Second Resumed Session of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly under Agenda Items 126, 135, 136, 138 and 150: Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations

(15:00 PM, June 4, 2019, Conference Room 3)

Madam Chair:

The Chinese delegation would like to thank Ms. Jan Beagle, the USG, for her briefing on the financial situation of the United Nations and the related reform initiatives, and thank Mr. Cihan Terzi, Chairman of ACABQ, for his presentation. China aligns itself with the statement by the representative of Palestine on behalf of the "Group of 77 and China" and would like to make the following additional observations and suggestions.

- 1. Finance serves as the foundation of and an important element underpinning the UN governance. A sound financial situation is not only the material basis for the UN to perform its duties and functions, but also an important guarantee for the implementation of UN reform initiatives. China commends the Secretary-General for his efforts to improve the financial situation of the United Nations.
- 2. The main problem facing the UN budget is the lack of liquidity. The

key to addressing this problem lies in the earnest fulfillment by member states of their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations by paying their assessed contributions on time and in full. If member states, especially those significantly in arrears, don't pay their dues on time, no reform measures, however well-designed they may be, can solve the liquidity problem. We call on all Member States, especially those with the capacity to pay, to pay their assessed contributions on time, in full and without conditions, so as to translate their commitments into actions and support the undertakings and reforms of the United Nations.

3. Reform initiatives aimed at improving the financial situation of the United Nations should be strictly in line with the spirit of the UN Charter and adhere to the principle of leadership by Member States. These initiatives should not impose any additional burden on Member States. Reform of the methodology for the regular budget should take into full account the impact of annual budget, scheduled to start from 2020 on a trial basis. Reform initiatives must be both holistically planned, integrated and prioritized. Reform initiatives should help strengthen financial discipline and improve comprehensive budget performance.

The Chinese delegation will actively work with other Member States to carefully study the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the ACABQ, and we will participate in the consultations on this agenda item in a constructive manner.

Thank you, Madam Chair.