

**73<sup>rd</sup> UN General Assembly  
Fifth Committee  
The Second Resumed Session**

**Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations**

**India Statement  
by  
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Deputy Permanent Representative**

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Thank you, Madam Chair.

2. We align with the statement delivered by the State of Palestine on behalf of the G77.

**Madam Chair,**

3. The peacekeeping financial year is ending in 26 days, on 30<sup>th</sup> June, and Member States are yet to pay \$1.9 billion worth of assessments for peacekeeping budget and \$1.5 billion worth of assessments for the Regular Budget.

4. Earlier this month, the UN Secretariat briefed the Member States of the large amounts of reimbursements that were due to the Troop Contributing Countries. These include troops cost with \$339 million and Contingent Owned Equipment claims from the active and closed missions worth \$670 million. Yet there is reluctance in some quarters to recognize the financial problems being faced by the UN.

**Madam Chair,**

5. The crisis is real and present and we need a solution that works.

6. Meeting the cash requirement of active missions by dipping into the cash pool of Closed peacekeeping missions and delaying reimbursements to Police and Troop Contributing Countries has over a period of time created a false sense of financial soundness. This approach of creative accounting in managing a financial crisis has never worked and never will.

7. It appears that the countries that owe arrears are somewhat insured from the impact of their inaction. As a result, the arrears have grown larger and with it the expectations, of course from the arrear-owing countries that the Secretariat would somehow manage the status quo, even if it requires calibrating the reimbursement framework.

8. The practice of delaying payments to TCCs while other contractual obligations are met, impacts the UN's ability to maintain honest agreements with TCCs on other aspects of the peacekeeping.

9. Against this backdrop, the Secretary General's report has been useful at least on two counts – one in admitting that the problem persists and two, initiating this long overdue discussion.

**Madam Chair,**

10. Sufficient cash has been made available in the pool of closed peacekeeping mission accounts for reimbursing the Troop and Police Contributing Countries in accordance with the agreements signed with them. However, this cash has been diverted to managing the liquidity crisis of the active peacekeeping missions and at times shortfall in the Regular Budget, thereby deferring resolution to the pressing problem.

11. We thank the Secretary General for highlighting the structural difficulties which have aggravated the financial crises. We also believe that a sustainable solution would only emerge when Member States begin to honor their budgetary obligations in full and on time. If Member-States do not meet their budgetary obligations, then at least in the context of future peacekeeping operations we see two emerging situations – one, where even with the available cash pool Troop Contributing Countries would not be reimbursed on time and two, Missions will close with a cash deficit, without fully reimbursing the Troop and Police Contributing Countries.

12. Many TCCs, 17 from the Group of 77, including India, are awaiting for long, legitimate reimbursements from the closed peacekeeping missions. Our expectation is that the problem be discussed and addressed comprehensively.

13. Madam Chair, I assure of my delegation's constructive engagement on this issue.