



PAKISTAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

8 EAST 65th STREET – NEW YORK, NY 10021 – (212) 879-8600

Please check against delivery

STATEMENT

BY

AMBASSADOR NABEEL MUNIR
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
PAKISTAN

AT THE

FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT

ON

IMPROVING FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE
.UNITED NATIONS

NEW YORK
June 4, 2019

Statement by Ambassador Nabeel Munir, Deputy Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations during formal introduction of the Secretary-General's report on *Improving Financial Situation of the United Nations*

New York, June 4, 2019

Madam Chair,

Let me express my gratitude to the Secretary-General for introduction of his report A/73/809, entitled *Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations*.

I would also like to align myself with the statement delivered by the State of Palestine on behalf of the G77 and China.

Madam Chair,

We all know that the UN is facing a deepening financial crisis. And at the same time, 'doing more with less' is also untenable. We must therefore act collectively but urgently.

The Secretary-General has embarked on a most ambitious reform agenda. Success of these reforms relies heavily on predictability and adequacy of financial contributions to the UN.

On the contrary, peacekeeping operations continue to face severe cash constraints, forcing the Organization to withhold payments to troop and police contributing countries. As of March 2019, the UN owed \$265 million to T/PCCs. This means T/PCCs have now become the de facto major financiers of UN peacekeeping.

Delayed payments hamper deployment of new units to peace operations. They deprive Missions of highly specialized capabilities like helicopters; hospitals with appropriate medical equipment; and engineering, explosive ordnance disposal and de-mining

capabilities. They also are a disincentive for many potential developing country troop contributors.

Madam Chair,

The Secretary-General's proposal on the table is timely to address this problem. Let me make four specific points in this regard:

One, when conflicts are multiplying and challenges intensifying, there is no better vehicle than the United Nations to achieve our common ideals of peace, security and prosperity. All member states must therefore pay their assessed contributions in full and on time;

Two, management of cash balances of all active peacekeeping operations as a pool would, at least to an extent, help with the liquidity problem. We understand that this would go a long way towards improving the timely settlement of payments to TCCs/PCCs. We also support issuing assessment letters to Member States for peacekeeping operations for the full budget period approved by the General Assembly;

Three, unspent funds for peacekeeping operations as well as the debt owed to member states on account of closed peacekeeping Missions should be returned and in full; and

Four, we expect that Annual Budgeting would translate into a more effective budget methodology, resulting in better costing through real vacancy rates and higher levels of staffing;

In Conclusion, **Madam Chair**, my delegation assures you of our constructive engagement for a consensual outcome on this agenda item.

I thank you.
