

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 Mr. FU Daopeng, Counselor of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations at the main session of the Fifth Committee of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly on Agenda Item 140: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, and Agenda Item 149: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

October 9, 2018

Madam Chair,

The Chinese delegation thanks Ambassador Bernardo Greiver, Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan, Acting Controller and Mr. Lionelito Berridge, Secretary of the Committee on Contributions for their presentation of the scales of assessments for UN regular budget and peacekeeping operations. We are appreciative of the work of the Committee on Contributions and the Secretariat. China aligns itself with the statements made respectively by Egypt on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and South Africa on behalf of the BRICS countries. I would like to make the following comments in my national capacity:

First, "capacity to pay" must be upheld as the basis for the assessment of contributions. Measures of a country's capacity to pay derive not only from GNI, but also, and more importantly, from per capita income. A country's real capacity to pay is ultimately determined by its per capita income. The GNI and per capita

income data of Member States should be the most current, comprehensive and comparable. China applauds the increasing number of Member States implementing the 2008 System of National Account, which has made GNI data of Member States more comparable. We are worried, however, about the decrease in the number of Member States directly submitting national accounts questionnaires, as the authority and accuracy of the data collected will be affected as a result. With respect to base periods, we believe that longer cycles better reflect the stable and sustainable capacity of Member States to pay and avoid the negative impact of short-term economic fluctuation.

Second, recent years witnessed an increase in the shares of developing countries as a whole and a decrease in those of developed countries in the scale of assessment. Such a trend merits our attention. According to the report of the Committee on Contributions, in the period 2019-2021, the combined share of members of the G77 and China will be 25.477%, about three times that in 2009. In the same period, the aggregate share of developed countries is on the decline. This indicates that the existence of some inappropriateness now in the methodology of calculating assessments blurs the distinction between developed and developing countries. Developing countries in general have weak economic bases and face daunting challenges in poverty eradication and achieving the sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda. The living standard of their people still lag far behind that of developed countries. Developed countries' capacity to pay is notably higher than developing countries, and should assume a larger share of the Organization's expenses.

Third, the two relief measures contained in the current methodology should be strengthened rather than diminished. The two relief elements, namely debt burden adjustment and low per capita income adjustment (LPCIA), derive logically from the principle of capacity to pay, and are concrete illustrations of fairness in measuring the capacity of developing countries to pay. These two relief measures

are indisputable and should be strengthened rather than diminished. Any criticism or exaggeration of the so-called distortion introduced by these measures in the scale of assessments are simply unacceptable. Any argument attempting to limit the two reliefs run counter to the principle of capacity to pay.

Fourth, this year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening process. Over the past four decades, the Chinese economy has been growing fairly rapidly. Nevertheless, China remains a developing country, with over 30 million people still living under poverty line. China's per capita GNI is only about US\$8,000, ranking approximately 70th in the world. According to the report of the Committee on Contributions and the calculation of the Committee's Secretariat, in the period 2019-2021, China's share will grow from 7.921% to 12.005%, a 12-fold increase over 2000, making China the second largest contributor to UN's regular budget. China's share in the peacekeeping assessments will expand from 10.2377% to 15.2136%, a surge of 49%. Significantly increased assessments are not a small burden. However, as long as the scale methodology is fair, just and reasonable, China, as a responsible major developing country, will actively fulfill its obligations under the UN Charter and pay its assessments in full and in a timely fashion. Such will be our concrete actions in support of the cause of the United Nations and multilateralism.

Madam Chair,

The Chinese delegation will join other Member States in participating actively and constructively in consultations, and looks forward to reaching a consensus on the scales of assessments as soon as possible.

Thank you, Madam Chair.



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请以现场发言为准

中国常驻联合国代表团参赞傅道鹏在第73届联大五委常会关于"议题140:联合国经费分摊比额表"和"议题149:联合国维和行动经费分摊比额表"的发言(2018年10月9日上午10点,第三会议室)

主席女士:

中国代表团感谢会费委员会主席格雷贝尔(Bernardo Greiver)大使、代理主计长 Chandramouli Ramanathan、会费委员会秘书 Lionelito Berridge 关于联合国经常性预算会费比额与维和摊款比额所做的介绍。感谢会费委员会和秘书处所做工作。中国代表团支持埃及代表"77 国集团和中国"所作发言,支持南非代表金砖国家所作发言,并愿补充以下意见:

一、"支付能力"作为联合国会费分摊的基础必须坚持。 衡量一个国家的支付能力,既要看国民总收入,更要看人均收入水平。一个国家的实际支付能力,最终由人均收入水平决定。 会员国的国民总收入和人均收入水平数据要最新、全面、可比较。中方对依照 2008 年国民账户体系统计数据的会员国增加 表示赞赏,这增强了会员国国民总收入数据可比性;但也为直接提交国民账户调查表会员国数量下降表示担忧,这将影响会员国数据的权威和准确。关于统计基期,我们认为长周期更能客观反映会员国稳定的、可持续的支付能力,避免短期经济波动带来的负面影响。

二、近年来发展中国家会费比额总体上升、发达国家会费比额总体下降的趋势应引起重视。根据会费委员会报告,2019—2021年,77 国集团和中国的会费比额之和为25.477%,约相当于2009年会费比额之和的3倍,而同期发达国家会费比额则总体下降。这表明,目前会费计算方法仍有不合理之处,混淆了发达国家与发展中国家的区别。广大发展中国家经济基础薄弱,消除贫困、实现2030可持续发展目标任重道远,国民整体生活水平与发达国家仍存在很大差距。发达国家的支付能力明显大于发展中国家,应承担更多的份额。

三、现行会费比额计算方法中的两项宽减措施只能加强、不能削弱。债务负担调整和低人均收入宽减这两个宽减要素,是"支付能力"原则的客观要求,也是公平衡量发展中国家"支付能力"的具体体现。两项宽减措施不容置疑,只能加强,不能削弱。任何批评甚至夸大两项宽减措施带来的比额表扭曲,是不能接受的。任何企图限制两项宽减的主张,都与支付能力原则相悖。

四、今年是中国改革开放40周年。40年来,中国经济取

得了较快增长,但中国仍然是一个发展中国家,还有 3000 多万贫困人口尚未脱贫,中国的人均国民总收入(GNI)只有 8000 美元左右,世界排名在第 70 位上下。根据会费委员会报告和秘书处测算,2019—2021 年,中国会费比额将由 7.921%升至 12.005%,是 2000 年的 12 倍,成为联合国第二大会费国;中国维和比额将由 10.2377%升至 15.2136%,增长 49%。大幅增长的会费摊款是一笔不小的负担,但只要计算方法公平、公正、合理,作为一个负责任的发展中大国,我们都将积极履行《联合国宪章》规定的义务,及时、足额缴纳会费摊款,以实际行动支持联合国事业,支持多边主义。

主席女士,

中国代表团将积极与其他会员国一道,以积极和建设性姿态参与磋商,尽早就比额问题达成共识。

谢谢主席女士。