



**Statement on behalf of the BRICS Member States by
Ambassador JM Matjila, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations
on agenda items 140: scale of assessment for the apportionment of the expenses of the
United Nations and 149: scale of assessment for the apportionment of the expenses of
United Nations peacekeeping operations, at the main part of the seventy-third session of the
Fifth Committee of the General Assembly**

New York, 9 October 2018

Madame Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the BRICS Member States (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) on agenda items 140 and 149: scales of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations and of United Nations peacekeeping operations respectively.

We take this opportunity to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your election. We are confident that under your leadership, the Secretariat will issue documents in all official languages in a timely fashion, and the Fifth Committee will be able to engage in constructive deliberations at this session, and complete its work in a timely manner.

The BRICS Member States thank Mr. Bernardo Greiver, Chairperson of the Committee on Contributions, for introducing its report. We also thank Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, Acting Controller, for introducing the related reports of the Secretary-General.

Madame Chair,

We attach the utmost importance to the United Nations scales of assessment and to the provision of adequate resources to the Secretariat in order to effectively fulfill their mandates.

The BRICS Member States underscore that the elements of the current methodology for the preparation of the scale of assessments of the United Nations are not negotiable, except the current maximum assessment rate, which is contrary to the principle of the capacity to pay and is a fundamental source of distortion in the scale of assessments.

In conclusion, let me assure you of the commitment of the BRICS Member States to work constructively with all delegations towards the timely conclusion of these agenda items.

I thank you.