



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

By

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Madame Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 28 Member States of the European Union.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia, align themselves with this statement. Allow me first to thank Mrs. Martha Helena Lopez, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management for presenting the reports of the Secretary-General and thank Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of ACABQ, for introducing the corresponding reports of his committee.

Madame Chair,

Strategic human resources management is at the heart of a more results oriented, innovative and high performing United Nations with a culture to match. We now have the opportunity to align Human Resources Management at a policy level with the overarching reforms we agreed as a committee this summer. EU Member States are ready to support the SG in these efforts, helping to deliver a more effective, transparent, and accountable United Nations in the service of the billions of people around the world who benefit from it and its mandates.

At the forefront of effective delivery of its mandates are United Nations staff, the organisations strongest asset; a workforce focused on resolving some of the world's toughest challenges, often in its harshest environments. In turn the actions of UN personnel must reflect the Organisation's core values of integrity, professionalism and respect for diversity. Ensuring that UN staff maintain the highest standards of conduct remains an utmost priority for the organisation and EU Member States. We welcome efforts to promote a culture of transparency and accountability including by making sure

that the UN is a safe place to work and work with, free from harassment and discrimination, sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud and all other types of criminal behaviour. To that extent we welcome ongoing efforts to investigate any alleged wrongdoing to the fullest extent under Article 101 of the UN Charter, as well as efforts by the Ethics Office to mitigate potential conflicts of interest and protect whistle-blowers from retaliation. We see a complementarity between these actions and the efforts to streamline the staff regulations, simplifying human resources policies and procedures to ensure they are well understood and adhered to, promoting an ethical culture around a transparent set of rules.

We welcome the SG's vision for human resource management, including his global strategy, key for improved talent acquisition and management and a transformed management culture. Looking forward, we plan to comment on HRM placement in the context of management reform.

Madame Chair, we look forward to receiving all remaining ACABQ reports on Human Resources Management in due course and will address these other aspects of HRM as foreseen in the PoW.

Thank you.