

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. COLLEN V. KELAPILE,
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE
FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING THE CLOSING SESSION OF THE
SECOND RESUMED PART OF THE SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(New York, 3 July 2019)**

Thank you, Madam Chair.

1. Our delegation takes the floor to, foremost, express appreciation for the able leadership you have provided to the Fifth Committee during the 73rd Session of the UNGA and this particular 2nd Resumed Session focusing on PKOS.
2. We take this opportunity to also thank the members of your Bureau, all other delegations and facilitators for the hard work leading to a successful conclusion of a rather difficult session.
3. Our delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by the Chair of the G77 and China as well as the Coordinator of the Africa Group, Uganda and wish to underscore a few points in our national capacity.

Madam Chair,

4. PKOS, as mandated by the UNSC, perform important tasks critical to restoring peace and stability in affected countries. The resources, as allocated by the General Assembly for the individual missions and their back-stopping at HQ as well as logical support at other hubs, must be adequate to support the mission mandates.
5. While we welcome the consensus achieved on the budget reductions through the spirit of broadest possible agreement, we expect that during implementation the longer-term impact and sustainability will be carefully assessed.
6. We view individual missions as integrated outfits, with the mission components interconnected, of which under-budgeting

in any of these can have unintended consequences. Beyond opportunities offered by PKO's for national capacity building, we must ensure the safety and security of all personnel deployed in the very challenging peacekeeping environments.

Madam Chair,

7. It is against this backdrop that my delegation continues to believe that, as we engage in peacekeeping efforts, we also take note of the importance of ensuring that Missions are adequately supported in their drawdown, and transition phases.
8. Achieving effective Peace-building and Sustaining Peace is at the very heart of Sustainable development efforts and should be one key area we must work hard to prepare for. Peacekeeping is an important step in this direction.
9. The evolving nature of conflict also requires that we work together with other entities, so as to reduce duplication of efforts. My delegation therefore attaches great importance to partnerships and collaboration with regional and sub-regional organisations, among them the African Union. More efforts need to be placed in this regard if we are aiming for greater efficiency and effectiveness.
10. Let me once again offer our congratulations on the successful conclusion of the session. While this has been a challenging session, your able stewardship has gotten the committee this far.
11. Looking ahead into the seventy-fourth session, my delegation reaffirms our commitment to engage constructively in the work of the Fifth Committee, and stand ready to work with all delegations to continue building on the foundations of this esteemed committee.

I thank you, Madam Chair.