



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

by

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Organization of Work

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Madame la Présidente,

J'ai l'honneur de m'exprimer au nom des Etats membres de l'Union européenne.

La Turquie, la Macédoine du Nord*, le Monténégro*, la Serbie* et l'Albanie*, pays candidats, la Bosnie-Herzégovine, pays du processus de stabilisation et d'association et candidat potentiel, ainsi que l'Ukraine, la République de Moldavie et la Géorgie se rallient à la présente déclaration.

Tout d'abord, permettez-moi de vous remercier, vous ainsi que le Bureau, pour tout le travail effectué. Permettez-moi également de remercier le Secrétariat ainsi que le CCQAB pour leur contribution dans la préparation de cette session très importante consacrée aux budgets des opérations de maintien de la paix ainsi qu'à la situation financière de l'Organisation. Nous attachons une grande importance à la disponibilité de tous les documents, dans toutes les langues, et dans des délais adéquats. C'est l'une des conditions qui nous permettront, nous l'espérons, de pouvoir traiter tous les sujets devant nous pendant les horaires établis.

Madam Chair,

The EU and its Member States are strong supporters of UN peacekeeping and recognise it as a core task of the Organisation. We are committed to ensuring that the organisation is effective and accountable in maintaining peace and security. In an increasingly complex environment, we must ensure that peacekeeping has the necessary means to succeed. Once again, the Fifth Committee must play a key role in advancing the idea of efficient and effective missions that are adequately financed and equipped to carry out their important mandates.

We continue to support the Secretary-General in his ongoing efforts to modernize and adapt the Organization. We commend the Secretary-General and all UN staff for progress achieved on UN Reform. Like others, we are concerned about the financial situation and viability of the UN. We look forward to discussing these items during this current session to expedite sustainable solutions for both the Programme Budget of the UN and the peacekeeping budgets. The regulations and rules governing the UN Budget are there to respond to the most urgent needs and to help allocate resources strategically. Budgetary instruments should be fit-for-purpose to deliver results. Far too often the UN's actions are defined by funding streams and budget lines, not by strategic implementation of our common objectives. We hope that collectively we can work towards improving the current financial situation of the United Nations.

We will comment in detail on all other individual items on our agenda, in particular the cross cutting aspects of peacekeeping such as gender parity, environmental standards, human rights and the continued fight against sexual exploitation and abuse in peacekeeping missions. We attach great importance to adequate and cost-efficient financing of peacekeeping missions, also in terms of civilian staffing components, the capacity to address thematic and political issues and the link to performance and its measurement. We will comment in detail when the overview report is presented to us.

* La Macédoine du Nord, le Monténégro, la Serbie et l'Albanie continuent à participer au processus de stabilisation et d'association.

We also hope that the General Assembly can finally find a solution for the cash held in closed peacekeeping operations during this session. The EU and its Member States support peacekeeping on the ground, with uniformed personnel and other capabilities, including strong political support and the A4P agenda. We work closely with the UN and other partners like the AU on issues related to peace and security at large. We are therefore very conscious of the shared sense of responsibility peacekeeping entails, but also of the clear benefits that result from active participation in peacekeeping missions. In that regard we commend and thank all member states that actively participate in peacekeeping and call upon all to work towards a true peacekeeping partnership that forms the basis of our collective action in terms of political, financial and operational support to UN peace operations.

We are aware of the demanding and challenging conditions in which peacekeepers carry out their work, especially in light of recent deadly attacks and highlight the importance of safety and security in Peacekeeping. We would like to commend the continued hard work and commitment of all UN personnel operating in peace operations and salute all the peacekeepers that have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Madam Chair,

We are convinced that under your leadership and guidance, this Committee will fully assume its role, mandate and responsibilities in providing the necessary resources for peacekeeping missions to fulfil their mandates. While ensuring that resources are used effectively, efficiently and in a transparent way.

The European Union and its Member States will work closely with all partners in a spirit of good faith, transparency and constructive cooperation.

Thank you, Madam Chair.