



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

by

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Counsellor

Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

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Mr. Chair,

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

We would like to thank you for all your work in guiding us through our deliberations. We would also like to express our gratitude to all the members of the Bureau, all facilitators and the members of the Fifth Committee Secretariat.

The Member States of the European Union continue to attach great importance to the reforms of the United Nations and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The resolutions adopted during this session confirm the direction the UN is taking in terms of budget reforms and management reforms. We are pleased to see that consensus on these issues remains strong and that the membership at large supports the Secretary-General in his efforts. The consensus reached on the programme planning resolution demonstrates that this committee has the capacity to find agreement on technical issues with important political ramifications.

Seguimos apoyando la simplificación de los procesos, la reducción y optimización de los documentos y una cultura orientada a resultados desde el punto de vista de la planificación y la programación. Es momento de que la Comisión se replantee los métodos de trabajo para llevar a cabo las negociaciones de un modo más eficiente y productivo. Esto ayudará a conseguir unas Naciones Unidas más sostenibles financieramente y a proteger nuestros valores comunes y el sistema en su conjunto cuando sea más necesario.

Asimismo, nos satisface comprobar que el primer presupuesto anual de Naciones Unidas ha sido aprobado con un nivel de recursos que permite una implementación eficaz de los mandatos. Permaneceremos vigilantes para que la financiación sea adecuada para cumplir con los mandatos que inciden transversalmente en los pilares de Naciones Unidas, teniendo en cuenta que ninguno de ellos puede lograrse si no se alcanzan los demás. Consideramos que nuestras presunciones y deliberaciones deben basarse siempre en las solicitudes de recursos del Secretario General, con el objetivo de evitar decisiones arbitrarias, un incremento de la politización y la fragmentación del presupuesto.

Mr. Chair,

We attach great importance to the correct functioning of the committees who help the Fifth Committee in its deliberations. In that regard, we continue to be convinced that the functioning and composition of ACABQ should be discussed in the Fifth Committee and that issues related to ACABQ can never be subject to arbitrary decisions imposed upon the membership at large.

We look forward to discussing all issues related to ACABQ expansion and functioning in due course in the Fifth Committee.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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We continue to be in favor of more streamlined processes, fewer and lighter documents and a more results-oriented culture in terms of planning and programming. It is time for the Committee to think about reviewing our working methods to conduct negotiations in a more efficient and productive manner. This will help achieve a more financially sustainable UN and protect our common values and the system as a whole, when needed the most.

We are also pleased to see the first annual budget of the UN approved at a level of resourcing that allows effective implementation of the mandates. We continue to be vigilant for adequate financing of all mandates across all pillars of the UN, considering that none of them can be fully achieved without achieving the others. We believe that our assumptions and deliberations should always be based on resourcing requests made by the Secretary-General, to avoid arbitrary decisions, further politicization and fragmentation of the budget.

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