



75th Session

Fifth Committee

13th Formal Meeting

143. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations

Borgar Olsen Tormodsgard, First Secretary

Chair,

Allow me to extend my thanks to you for organizing this meeting, and also to Under Secretary-General Catherine Pollard for her briefing on 7 May. I would also like to thank Assistant Secretary-General Ramanathan for his briefing on 10 May.

Norway is a strong supporter of multilateralism and the United Nations. In light of the challenges posed by the ongoing pandemic, it is clear that we need a strong, effective and efficient United Nations. We need an organization that both manages its financial resources responsibly, and delivers on its mandates.

Chair,

The Charter states that the expenses of the Organization shall be borne by the Member States as appropriated by the General Assembly.

Full and timely payment of our dues is essential for a well-functioning United Nations. This is important to ensure mandate implementation in increasingly complex country situations. Predictable and stable financing is key to a relevant and effective United Nations for all.

Chair,

The Fifth Committee has previously adopted measures to alleviate the liquidity situation for the peacekeeping budget. My delegation is pleased to see the positive effects of cash-pooling on troop reimbursements, and how this has contributed to the safety, security and predictability of UN staff in the field.

Nevertheless, repeated letters from the Secretary-General shows that the UN is still facing serious liquidity constraints. My delegation is particularly concerned about the cash situation with regard to the regular budget, and the liquidity measures' potential impact on mandate implementation.

We do recognize the difficulties faced by all countries as we all work to reallocate resources to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. Norway commends those countries that have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time. Nevertheless, the presentation last week shows that more has to be done.

As a founding member and consistent partner of the UN, Norway urges all Member States to make every effort to pay their outstanding contributions in full, on time and without conditions. This will ensure a strong and effective UN that delivers on its promise to the people it serves.

Thank you.