



# AUSTRALIA



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**UNGA75 FIFTH COMMITTEE FIRST RESUMED SESSION:  
Item 146. HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
1 March 2021**

**Statement by H.E. The Hon. Mitch Fifield,  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Australia to the  
United Nations, on behalf of CANZ**

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Mr Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor. I have the honour to speak on behalf of Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

The most valuable asset of the United Nations is its staff. We are mindful of the difficult working conditions associated with COVID-19 and appreciate the UN's efforts to adapt its work practices and prioritise staff welfare.

Mr Chair,

Now, more than ever, the UN needs a capable and diverse workforce to deliver on its complex and challenging mandates. A workforce that reaches gender parity, empowers staff and operates with the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and efficiency.

Mr Chair,

Our group continues to strongly support the Secretary-General's reform efforts, of which human resources management is a critical part. We are pleased that the ongoing implementation of reform is strengthening the UN's culture of collaboration across pillars. As a result, we look forward to a UN that better delivers for the people it serves around the world.

Mr Chair,

Human Resources Management is a tremendously important agenda item and there are many different elements to it. We should strive for an outcome on each report, including those from previous sessions that are outstanding, to provide clear direction to the Secretary-General and to inform future reports that will be brought to the Fifth Committee.

Mr Chair,

We regret that the Fifth Committee was unable to reach consensus on Human Resources Management during the 73rd and 74th sessions and we need to do better. Our group remains committed to achieving a positive outcome during this session.

Thank you.

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