

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS BY FIRST SECRETARY KATLEGO BOASE MMALANE, DURING THE CLOSING SESSION OF THE SECOND PART OF THE RESUMED SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE UNGA

(New York, 29 June 2021)

Mr. Chair,

- 1.** I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Botswana to the United Nations at this closing session of the Fifth Committee's peacekeeping session.
- 2.** Let me start by extending my delegations profound gratitude to the Chair of the Fifth Committee H.E Ambassador Carlos Amorín, Permanent Representative of Uruguay and my fellow Bureau Members, the Vice Chairs of the Fifth Committee Jakub Krzysztof Chmielewski of the Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations and Armağan Ayşe Can Crabtree of the Permanent Mission of Turkey and lastly the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee Mr Tsu Tang Terrence Teo of the Permanent Mission of Singapore.
- 3.** I would also like to thank Mr. Lionel Berridge and the Secretariat of the Fifth Committee for their tireless dedication and efforts in facilitating the Committee's work. They have had to, as usual, combine their enormous tasks here with those of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC).
- 4.** A special mention also goes to the Chair of the ACABQ, Mr. Abdallah Bachar Bong and his team as well as ASG and controller Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan and his team and last but not least Ms. Vivian Van de Perre and her team. We are grateful for the support and esteemed assistance rendered by your offices in allowing us to make informed decisions that have a great bearing on Peace and Security matters globally.
- 5.** As we conclude this Second resumed peacekeeping session, it is important to recognize the resilience of the fifth Committee in

executing its mandate of overseeing the Organisations administrative and Budgetary matters. The Botswana delegation is therefore proud to be an active member of this auspicious committee and is thankful for the accomplishments achieved during this session, among others,

- Approval of the \$6.4 billion peacekeeping budget as a whole;
- Human Resource management matters including the call for equitable geographical representation across all United Nations offices especially in the field;
- Favourable decisions over secondment of Military and Police Personnel;
- Preparedness over future pandemics and epidemics;
- The Health, safety and protection of civilian and Uniformed personnel;
- The need and importance to explore additional innovative ways of promoting procurement from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- The importance of and role of regional and sub-regional Organisations in peace process hence the call for deepened partnership, cooperation and coordination between the UN and these Organisations.
- Promotion of programmatic activities and Quick Impact projects and their contribution to the implementation of Mission mandates, including the prevention and resolution of conflicts;
- The importance of the Women, Peace and Security agenda,
- Greater accountability and oversight in Peacekeeping Missions
- Efforts aimed at reducing the overall environmental footprint of Missions, including through, but not limited to, the implementation of environmentally responsible waste management and power generation systems.
- Promotion of the nationalization of functions as well as building local capacity efforts with the aim of increasing the representation of national staff through outreach activities.
- Action against increasing number of vacancies in the United Nations

- Prioritization, safety and security of UN personnel as well as protection of civilian activities.

Mr. Chair,

6. Botswana under the ambit of the Group of 77 and China as well as the African Group placed great interest on the above, more especially ensuring that the United Nations Peacekeeping Budget is commensurate to Mission mandates.
7. Let me once again take the opportunity to congratulate you all, especially the 5th committee secretariat, the ACABQ, OIOI, BOA and the Bureau of the 75th Session for a job well done in these unique and challenging times. We thank you for your able stewardship and dedication to the UN's pledge of “ ***maintaining International peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better leaving standards and human rights.***”
8. Mr. Chairman, as a country that upholds these ideals and principles, be assured that Botswana shall remain steadfast in supporting the greater cause of this August body and as reiterated by the chair of the G77 and China as well as the Africa Group work with everyone in the spirit of cooperation and flexibility, accommodating the views and opinions of all, so as to see a United Nations that is tolerant, diverse, proactive, and better prepared in dealing with future pandemics and epidemics, while also promoting peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts. Let our work always serve the greater good and ensuring that we “***Leave No One Behind***”

See you at the 76th session

I thank you

