

STATEMENT BY AMB NJAMBI KINYUNGU, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE AT THE SECOND RESUMED PART OF THE SEVENTY FIFTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MONDAY, 3RD MAY, 2021, NEW YORK

1. Mr. Chairman, during this resumed session, my delegation will be following keenly all the administrative and budgetary aspects on financing of the Peace-keeping Operations. We will also follow the oversight related aspects under the Board of Auditors, Joint Inspection Unit and Office of Internal Oversight Services, which are before the Committee.
2. Kenya aligns itself with statements delivered by representatives of the Group of 77 and China and African Group. I wish to make some additional remarks.
3. Mr. Chairman, it has been 73 years since the UN deployed its first peacekeeping mission in 1948. 72 missions down the line, our commitment to peace and security remains unwavering, noting that peacekeeping remains a critical tool for the United Nations in the advancement of global peace and security.
4. My delegation pays special tribute to the gallant women and men in uniform and civilians who continue to serve diligently in many missions across the globe. We also honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. We further thank the staff at the United Nations Headquarters that support the work of peacekeepers in the field.
5. Mr. Chairman, we all agree that the peacekeeping environment has increasingly become volatile, violent and unpredictable - exposing peacekeepers to unprecedented safety and security threats.

6. With troops in AMISOM, one of the most difficult peacekeeping missions in the world, Kenya and other troops contributing countries, have lost soldiers in particular, as a result of Improvised Explosive Devices laid by the terrorist group, al-Shabaab. This threat is replicated in other missions including in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Mali and in the Central African Republic.
7. These conditions have necessitated a realignment of peacekeeping mission mandates to include tasks that were traditionally not assigned to peacekeepers. Fragile and post-conflict contexts have demanded clear linkages between cross-border efforts and regional peace and security on the one hand; and peace operations and peacebuilding on the other.
8. It has also become more critical that peacekeeping operations are infused with peacebuilding elements to reinforce resilience, mitigate against cycles of relapse and enhance the capacity of governance and security institutions of host countries.
9. The volatile peacekeeping environment further demands a greater focus on the safety, protection and security of peacekeeping operations and peacekeepers. In this regard, we laud the UN Secretary General's call for Action for Peace. When we speak of the protection, safety and security of peacekeepers, we think about a well-trained peacekeeper, deployed with the right equipment and sufficiently facilitated.
10. While fully recognizing the wide-ranging constraints imposed the COVID-19 pandemic, we call for reliable, sustainable and predictable financing for all peace operations, including those conducted under other regional arrangements such as AMISOM.
11. Unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, peacekeeping operation mandates continue to face the lack of adequate allocation of matching resources. And yet, we continue to demand performance and accountability from the blue helmets. I urge all of us to recommit allocating matching resource not only to secure their safety and security, but also ensure efficient delivery of mandate.

12. We also urge the UN secretariat to develop a strategy that seeks to ensure the African Peace Fund is established and well-funded. Additionally, UN mandated peace operations should strengthen partnerships with regional and sub-regional intergovernmental mechanisms such as IGAD for stronger links between peacekeeping, peacebuilding and development.
13. Mr. Chairman, I wish to conclude by reiterating that Kenya remains committed to its contribution towards the peace and security agenda. Under your very able leadership, we look forward to constructive engagement with all delegations with a view to achieving consensual outcomes on all the agenda items in a timely fashion.
14. Thank you.