

Mr. Chair,

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of Argentina, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and my own country.
2. At the outset we'd like to thank you for your leadership and the bureau members for their valuable contribution to our Committee. We extend our thanks to the Fifth Committee Secretariat for their tireless and efficient work.
3. We would also like to thank ASG for Peace Building Support, Ms. Elizabeth Spehar, ASG for Rule of Law and Security Mr. Alexandre Zouev and vice chair of the ACABQ, Mrs. Juliana Gaspar Ruas for presenting the related reports.

Mr. Chair,

4. We attach great importance to peacebuilding and we recognize the challenges to secure sufficient adequate and sustained resources to provide support to countries transitioning out of conflict and to support processes and achieve goals towards sustaining peace. We also recognize that COVID-19 has made such challenges even more complex and urgent. We do not question the relevance of having predictable financing and are well aware of how the lack of resources can have a detrimental effect over ongoing processes.

Mr. Chair,

5. Report A/76/732 and the related ACABQ report have come to the attention of the Fifth Committee in this second resumed session. Though we understand that it is the responsibility and prerogative of the General Assembly through its Fifth Committee to oversee and authorize the use of assessed contributions we are also mindful of the use of resources and we reiterate the importance of avoiding overlapping discussions. The subject of said reports is being simultaneously discussed by the General Assembly Plenary in a broader way. This situation is neither desirable, for there's a risk of different outcomes about the same matter, neither it is in line with the best financial practices.

Mr. Chair,

6. We underscore the state driven character of this organization, for which the intergovernmental approval of the mandates financed by member states is of the essence. We believe that mandates should determine the level of resources and not the other way around.
7. In light of recent events, we have to be mindful of accountability and oversight. Unlike the traditional UN practice related to assessed contributions, if the proposal before us is approved, member states would be financing activities that were not previously planned and budgeted accordingly, there would be no prior scrutiny by the ACABQ nor there would be a General Assembly approval of the budget, as is the current practice. We attach great importance to the consensual decision making of the Fifth committee and we believe that this committee can only properly fulfill its purpose if all phases are duly complied with.

8. We also note with concern the proposal of combining both scales, regular budget and peacekeeping. It is our understanding that the activities performed by the Fund are of a “peace and security” nature. In that sense, we look forward to better understanding the rationale basing the proposed combination of scales.
9. Finally, we note that, differently from other assessed contributions, the use of these resources would not be regulated by the UN Financial Regulations and Rules.

Mr. Chair,

10. As we start the discussions on this agenda item, we look forward to better understanding the Secretary-General’s request and how to address those. I assure you that we stand ready to engage in a constructive manner to achieve a successful and timely outcome on this matter. I thank you.