



United Kingdom
Mission to the
United Nations

Statement by the delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations on the financial situation of the United Nations

12 May 2022

Mr Chair

I would like to thank Under Secretary-General, Catherine Pollard, for her update last week on the current financial situation of the United Nations.

The United Kingdom is pleased that the financial situation of the United Nations remains on a better footing compared to recent years. Sustained improvement depends on all member states paying their assessed contributions in full and on time. We therefore call on all member states to live up to their financial obligations to the United Nations.

As we announced in the Main Session, the United Kingdom is transitioning its payment pattern to align with the United Nations' financial years. From January 2023, we will pay our full assessed contribution to the regular budget in January and for peacekeeping budgets in August. We encourage others to consider taking such steps.

Last week's presentation showed the United Kingdom as having unpaid contributions for the international tribunals. I am pleased to say that this payment was made this morning.

Mr Chair

We commend the UN Controller and the rest of the Organisation once again for their careful prioritisation of how the United Nations uses its available resources to maintain mandate delivery, with a sharper focus on those activities that deliver results. However, time and resources spent managing and mitigating the impact of liquidity shortages could be used to enhance delivery and achieve more and better results on the ground.

Nonetheless, given the challenges faced, we continue to encourage the Secretariat to prioritise and use its resources effectively, and where necessary agilely, including in response to new mandates, and emerging priorities and challenges, in support of delivery.

Mr Chair,

The Secretary General has warned us of the significant amount of credits due to be returned to member states in 2023, and the potentially devastating impact this could have on the United Nations' liquidity. We have another opportunity this session to agree measures to mitigate the impact of this extraordinary situation and to help the Organisation better manage liquidity over the longer-term.

The United Kingdom stands ready to work with our fellow member states to live up to our responsibilities and agree solutions that put the United Nations on a better financial footing.