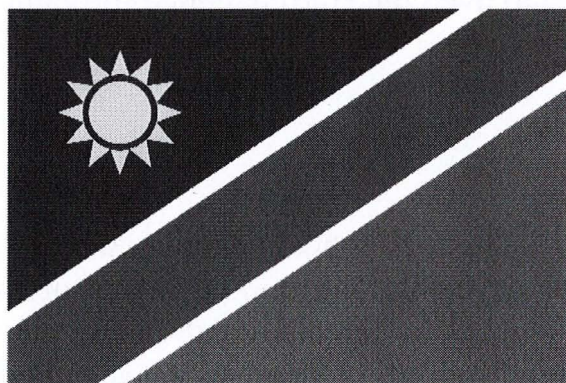


**STATEMENT BY H. E. NEVILLE GERTZE AMBASSADOR AND
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
NAMIBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**



**IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UN FOR THE
MAIN PART OF THE 76TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**28 October 2021
United Nations HQ,
New York**

1. Mr. Chair, since it's my first time taking the floor, I would like to congratulate you, and the Bureau on your election and wish you the very best in your task of spearheading the Fifth Committee during this 76th Session.
2. Namibia aligns itself with the statements delivered by Group of 77 & China and Africa Group respectively and I wish to amplify some additional remarks in my national capacity.
3. I would like to thank Catherine Pollard, Under Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and her capable team, for presenting the report for Improving the financial situation of the United Nations. In the same breath, I would like to congratulate the Secretariat for being so resilient and prudent to overcome the challenges brought about by financial woes facing us.

Mr. Chair,

4. My delegation shares the deep concern expressed by so many who have spoken before me that late payments and non-payments of assessed contribution by Member States continue to threaten and undermine the mandate and the operations of the organization. As Member States, our collective responsibility is the pursuit of international peace and security, and central to securing this is the mandatory funding of the UN.
5. It is vital that all countries should be treated equally and in seeking to meet the aspirations and needs of the people we serve in this global Parliament of Humanity, we are obligated to uphold our common but differentiated responsibilities. Namibia shares the frustration about the trend of some Member States continuing to pay amounts that are significantly below their assessed contributions. While my delegation appreciates the economic woes that many Member States are experiencing, we do implore all Member States to unconditionally pay their contributions on time and in full.

Mr. Chair,

6. We should all be concerned that the contributions from Member States continue to decrease over the years, impacting the delivery of the mandate. We are equally concerned that most of the contributions are received during the latter part of the year, putting pressure on the organization to fully utilize the approved budget.

We therefore urge Member States to pay their contributions as soon as they are due to support optimal budget planning and execution. We further call Member States that find it difficult to pay on time and in full, to make use of the instrument within the United Nations by submitting multi-year payment plans.

7. The financial turmoil that the United Nations continue to experience forces the borrowing of funds from closed peacekeeping operations in order to fund budget shortfalls. This situation is not acceptable and can be avoided if all Member States consistently pay their contributions on time and in full.
8. In closing Mr. Chair, I once again assure you of my delegation's readiness to engage constructively and openly with a view to achieving positive outcomes and ensuring that all agenda items under consideration by the Committee to be concluded in a timely manner.

I thank you.