

Statement on behalf of the BRICS Member States by Ambassador R Ravindra,
Deputy Permanent Representative and Political Coordinator, Permanent Mission
of India to the UN, on agenda items 142: scale of assessments for the apportionment
of the expenses of the United Nations and 149: scale of assessments
for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations, at
the main part of the seventy-sixth session of the Fifth Committee of the General
Assembly

New York, 4 October 2021

Mister Chair,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the BRICS Member States (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) on agenda items 142 and 149: scales of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations and of United Nations peacekeeping operations respectively.

We take this opportunity to congratulate you and the Bureau's members on your election. The BRICS Member States are certain that you and the team will ensure that all delegations engage constructively in negotiations and the Fifth Committee completes its work in a timely manner.

We would also like to thank Mr. Bernardo Greiver, Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, and Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan for introducing the reports.

Mister Chair,

The BRICS Member States attach the utmost importance to the United Nations scales of assessments and to the provision of adequate resources to the Secretariat in order to effectively fulfill their mandate.

The BRICS Member States emphatically underscore that the elements of the current methodology for the preparation of the scale of assessment have worked well and must continue. They are not negotiable. The principles of "capacity to pay" and the "low per capita income adjustment" are fundamental criteria in the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations. The current maximum assessment rate however is contrary to these principles and is a source of distortion in the scale of assessments. We emphasize that the developed countries with high per capita income should take on more financial responsibilities with regard to the United Nations.

In conclusion, we wish to assure you of the BRICS Member States' commitment to work constructively with all delegations towards the timely conclusion of these very significant agenda items.

We thank you.