

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Agenda item 130

**Programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013,
Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other
political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council,
Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel**

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

Maria Eugenia Casar
Assistant Secretary-General, Controller,
10 May 2013

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

1. The report of the Secretary-General presently before the Committee (A/67/346/Add.8) contains the 2013 budget proposal for the Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel (OSES).
2. Given the evolving situation in the Sahel, the Secretary-General appointed a Special Envoy for the Sahel in October 2012. By its resolution 2071 (2012) of 12 October 2012, the Security Council welcomed the appointment of the Special Envoy.
3. For the initial period from October to December 2012, the requirements for the Special Envoy were funded from extra budgetary resources. Pending the decision of the General Assembly on the current proposal, the interim resource requirements for the Office since January 2013 are being funded under the commitment authority of the Secretary-General for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. Since the interim funding is intended to be a bridging mechanism, the level of resources requested in the current proposal contains full provisions for 2013.

4. The estimated requirements for 2013 for the Office of the Special Envoy amount to \$4.1 million net (\$4.3 million gross), including a total of 19 positions.
5. The action requested of the General Assembly is contained in paragraph 30 of the report.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.