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**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MASOOD KHAN ON AGENDA ITEM 146, ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, AT THE FIRST PART OF THE RESUMED SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (New York, 8 March 2013)**

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Mr. Chairman,

Pakistan delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Fiji, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 146, 'Administrative and Budgetary Aspects of Financing United Nations Peacekeeping Operations'.

Mr. Chairman,

2. We appreciate the hard work done by the Senior Advisory Group, which was mandated by the General Assembly to look into the issue of troop cost and other related peacekeeping matters. There is, however, a general feeling that the contents of the SAG Report require further deliberation in order to fine-tune some of its recommendations, to make it acceptable to all stakeholders.

3. We have an important opportunity, during this session, to resolve long-standing issues in the context of this agenda item. We do not believe that it was the intention of the drafters to present the SAG Report as a *'take it or leave it'* approach. This, therefore, would not be the right way to deal with the critical issues of UN peacekeeping.

Mr. Chairman,

4. The recommendations related to the Rotation of Troops, Contingent Owned Equipment, and Survey mechanism, could create operational difficulties in their implementation. Therefore, these recommendations should be re-caliberized, in order to address the concerns of Member States.

5. We are confident that with collective wisdom and understanding of one another's concerns, the Committee would use this opportunity to de-politicize our decision for the benefit of our future discussions on peacekeeping budgets and other cross-cutting issues.

6. Let me assure you, Mr. Chairman, of Pakistan's constructive engagement on this important agenda item.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.