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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE FEDERAL  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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## Statement

By

Ambassador Aman Hassen

D.P.R. of the Permanent Mission of the  
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations

On the budget for the United Nations Interim Secretary  
force for Abyie (UNISFA) for the period from 1 July 2013  
to 30 June 2014.

At the 67<sup>th</sup> Second Resumed Session of the 5<sup>th</sup> Committee.

May, 2013

New York

**Mr. Chairman**

I would like to thank the Assistant Secretary General/Controller, Ms Maria Eugina Casar, for introducing the report of the Secretary General as contained in A/67/704 regarding the budget for the United Nations Interim Security force for Abyei (UNISFA) for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. Our appreciation also goes to Mr. Carlos Massier, Chair of the ACABQ, for introducing the related report of the Committee as contained in A/67/780.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Cotedivoire on behalf of the African Group.

The Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia pays tribute to the brave men and women in uniform who have lost their lives in the line of duty in Abyei for the cause of peace and security of our world.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The United Nations Interim Security force for Abyei (UNISFA) has continued to maintain a stable security environment conducive to the voluntary return of displaced persons, the smooth delivery of humanitarian aid and the free movement of humanitarian personnel in the Abyei area. The withdrawal of Sudanese and South Sudan's armed force from Abyei area in 2012, has helped achieve this result. UNISFA has played a vital role in all this.

The Mission has facilitated the peaceful and orderly movement of Miseriya nomads and the return of displaced Ngok Dinka into Abyei. Accordingly, the voluntary returns of Ngok Dinka has

increased from 10,333 to 56,500 in the past two years. During the 2013/14 period an increase in return of the displaced persons belonging to the Nogok Dinka community is expected. To facilitate the return of the displaced population and the movement of Misseriya and their cattle, the Mission has established operating bases and checkpoints. UNISFA has also continue to initiate conflict mitigation, peace and co-existence measures and mechanisms. It should also be underlined that UNISFA has supported the Joint Border verification and Monitoring Mechanism in creating a safe and demilitarized zone.

**Mr. Chairman,**

UNISFA has also not shied away from tackling some of the very sensitive issues between the two parties .In close coordination with the African Union designated facilitators and in conformity with the 20 June,2011 Agreement between the parties, UNISFA has continued to assist in the resolution of to resolve disagreements over the establishment of the Abyei administration and the Abyei police service. This has also necessitated work to encourage to inter-community dialogue and reconciliation between the traditional leaders. Indeed there has been progress in the level of trust between the communities and which, however, has not been without occasional setback as happened a few days ago resulting in a major tragedy causing the loss of lives. The way this tragedy has been handled sofar is a good indication of how much both parties are committed to ensuring that peace is maintained.

**Mr.Chairman,**

Currently, the Mission comprises a Mission headquarters, ten Company operating bases, six temporary operating bases in the Abyei area and a logistics base in Kadugli. Of the 10 operational locations, including 3 locations taken over from UNMIS, 7 are to be constructed or are currently under construction. According to the Secretary General's Report, the Mission is planning to complete the construction projects that were not completed in 2012/13. At the end of the reporting period construction was completed 60% .The construction timeline has faced delays owing to rainy season and other logistical challenges.

My delegation is concerned about the repeated delay of construction projects and in this regard requests the Secretary General to redouble efforts to ensure that construction projects are completed on schedule.

It is in light of this that my delegation considers the proposed cut suggested by the ACABQ unwise. As the construction is progressing well, to recommend a cut at this stage of the construction phase will negatively affect the overall performance of the Mission. We believe this is a serious matter.

Inclosing, Mr. Chairman, my delegation is looking forward to engaging constructively in the informal negotiations on this important agenda item.

**I thank you!**