STATEMENT

by

H.E. Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan Permanent Representative of Turkey

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Organisation of Work

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- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

At the outset, we would like to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the Bureau of the Fifth Committee and the other members of the Bureau. We wish you every success in your work and express our full confidence for your able stewardship . We also wish to express our appreciation to H.E. Mr. Michel Tommo Monthe, previous Chairman of Bureau and Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations for his guiding and intermediating efforts for the Committee during 66th Session.

We also thank the Secretariat and the members of Bureau for preparing Program of Works and planned briefings in coming days and for today, we extend thanks in advance to Under Secretary General, Mr. Yukio Takasu for his presentation.

Mr. Chairman,

We have a balanced program of work which may be adjusted in the course of discussion throughout Committee meetings. Nevertheless, timely conclusion of this main session requires an effective collaboration and understanding of each member states. We hope that the recent deliberations taken in the last spring to improve internal working methods of Fifth Committee is going to be reflected in quality and speed of the processing of the Committee's workload. We believe that all the efforts should be extended for enhancing the efficiency of working methods of the Committee without making any concession on the main principles of inclusiveness, transparency, equality and openness of the decision making process. In this respect, we should continue to make all possible efforts to take the decision in consensus as before.

Mr. Chairman,

Timely issuance of the documents still continues to be the most critical issue for the effective functioning of the 5th Committee. We look forward to further improvement in timely submission of all required documents well before the beginning of session.

Mr. Chairman,

Having considered the ongoing adverse impact of the economic crisis, it is getting more essential to make sure that the limited resources of the UN System should be allocated and disbursed in the most effective and efficient manner. As we all know, UN is a very complex organization comprising several entities in addition to a large headquarter of multiple departments in charge of very diverse range of operations. Design and implementation of a comprehensive business transformation process in such a huge organization is a real challenge. Timely and effective design and implementation of ongoing organizational transformation initiatives under UMOJA through the successful deployment of ERP and IPSAS with a coherent alignment of organizational structure and reform of human resources should be foremost priority for all of us. In this regard, we fully support all initiatives and efforts of the Secretariat for modernizing and rationalizing the structures and functions of relevant UN entities to attain much more integrated, efficient, transparent and accountable working environment in United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

In this current economic and political juncture, it is more critical than ever to promote economic and social development activities in the United Nations System so that a specific attention to be given throughout the budgetary cycle to balance all the mandates of the Organization by supporting development activities as well in addition to core pillars of peace, security and human rights.

Mr. Chairman,

We all have been witnessing the recent year developments with respect to magnitude and scope of Special Political Missions. As SPMs are getting an increasing portion of general budget, different timing of their budget cycle and the nature of their funding requirements may require the adoption of a different scale of adjustment and budgeting process for SPMs operations.

Mr. Chairman,

The effective delivery of the legislative mandates of the Organization requires maintenance of financial strength of UN. Therefore all member states should meet their contribution obligations full and on time without any condition to cover the expenses of the Organization. We also firmly believe that capacity to pay should be main factor in assessment of scale in parallel with evolving economic capabilities of member states. In line with of our economic growth, the amount of our contribution is likely to be increased by more than twice. Turkey always fully and timely meets its payment obligation and we are ready to assume larger share of burden in the coming periods. However, the magnitude of the one- time increase in our scale assessment alike a couple of other member states will be quite significant due to specific nature of Low Per Capita Income Adjustment element of the current methodology. In this respect, we believe that a comprehensive review of the modalities of the current methodology should be conducted by considering provision of a transitional relief for the member states who face large scale to scale increase.

Mr. Chairman,

By keeping in mind the universal characteristic of UN System, a much better geographically balanced diversification of human resources, procurement and investment activities should be tried to be achieved. Main principles of openness, transparency and fairness in decision making regarding to procurement and staff recruitment process should be ensured. We believe that further actions needed to be taken for having more effective human resources policies in particular to increase the real effectiveness of the system of desirable ranges.

Regarding the procurement practice in UN System, we do believe that outreach activities of Procurement Operation Service should be enhanced in order to attain a fair geographical diversity on the procurement of goods and services thus improving cost effectiveness of the procurement program.

We also believe that asset investment decision of United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund should be taken and processed in a much more transparent and open manner. A fair diversification of Fund's asset investment among developing, emerging and developed countries should be attained on the basis of proper yield to risk evaluation.

Mr. Chairman,

In closing, let me assure you that our Delegation is ready to collaborate with all partners in a constructive spirit in the upcoming deliberations to reach successful and timely conclusion of this main session.

Thank you Mr. Chairman