



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA BY H.E.  
AMBASSADOR PETER THOMSON, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FIJI TO  
THE UNITED NATIONS, ON THE AGENDA ITEM 134: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR  
THE BIENNIUM 2014-2015 ON THE ISSUES OF INFORMATION AND SYSTEMS  
SECURITY (NEW YORK, 10 DECEMBER, 2013)**

Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Group of 77 and China on agenda item 134: programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 on the issues of Information and systems security; Limited budgetary discretion; revised estimates for the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development; Subvention for Cambodia Courts; and Programme Budget Implications - Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.

2. The Group of 77 and China would like to thank the USG for Management, Mr Yukio Takasu, and the Assistant Secretary-General, Controller, Ms. María Eugenia Casar, for the introducing the reports of Secretary-General as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, the Chairperson of the ACABQ for introducing the Committee's related reports.

Mr. Chairman,

3. The Group of 77 and China notes the information provided on the limited budgetary discretionary authority conferred to the Secretary-General on a experimental basis in the last four biennia, including the non-utilization of such mechanism in the current biennium. The G77 and China is awaiting comprehensive information on the utilization of the limited budgetary discretionary authority in order to evaluate the need to continue this experiment.

Mr. Chairman,

4. The Group shares the ACABQ's concern about the adverse cash position of the Extraordinary Chambers. While recalling GA resolution 57/227 B, which provides that the expenses of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers would be covered by the United Nations through voluntary contributions from the international community, the Group regrets that voluntary contributions has not been sufficient enough to meet the needs of the Extradordinary Chambers during the last one and half years. The Group is of the view that the steadily worsening financial situation is undermining the operations of the Extraordinary Chambers and their ability to implement their programme of work. In that regard, the Group supports the proposal by the Secretary-General as contained in his report to provide the Extraordinary Courts with a subvention for the biennium 2014-2015. The Group expects the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to obtain additional voluntary contributions for funding the future activities of the Extraordinary Chambers.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Turning to the issue of the strengthening of information and systems security in the Organization, the Group of 77 and China takes note of the action plan of the Secretary-General to address the most urgent shortcomings in information security. We fully support the provision of the necessary resources to ensure the implementation of the action plan.

6. The Group of 77 and China emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive information security strategy to protect the Organization against security breaches as well as against massive surveillance, interception and collection of communications.

Mr. Chairman,

7. The importance we attach to security information in the Organization is not disconnect to a wider discussion that is happening with regards to information security

in general. In that regard, the Group fully supports the approval of the necessary resources related to the implementation of draft resolution A/C.1/68/L.37, in particular the work of the Group of Governmental Experts to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understanding, existing and potential threats in the area of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, including norms, rules or principles of responsible behavior of States.

Mr. Chairman,

8. The Group of 77 and China continue to emphasize that all mandates approved by all intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations, in particular those related to development activities, must receive predictable and adequate funding.

9. As already stressed by the Group, the Rio+20 Conference was a seminal moment for the multilateral system. Its outcome document highlights our common commitment to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection, in order to achieve a world that is just, equitable and inclusive.

10. These objectives are very dear to the Group of 77 and China and reflect the principles enunciated in the June 1964 Joint Declaration of the Seventy-Seven Developing Countries.

11. The High Level Political Forum was established at the Rio+20 Conference to provide political leadership to further enhance international cooperation on sustainable development, ensure comprehensive implementation of the Rio+20 mandates and follow-up on the fulfillment of sustainable development commitments. The Group of 77 and China fully supports the provision of all the necessary resources to the High Level Political Forum.

12. In conclusion, Mr Chairman, let me assure you our continued readiness to engage constructively on this important agenda item.

I thank you.