



**Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union**

**By**

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Mr Chairman

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the European Union.

The Member States of the European Union are pleased that the Committee has been able to swiftly conclude consideration of agenda item 135 on Programme Planning and hope this sets a good example for the consideration of other agenda items.

The Programme Planning process and the work of the Committee for Programme Coordination is central to the way the UN currently plans and budgets. It will be no surprise to colleagues to be reminded that this is a process which the Member States of the European Union have long felt could be improved.

Mr Chairman

As we highlighted in the informal meeting on this item, in particular we see a need to improve the programme plan to better indicate the expected real impact of activities, to reflect the actual outcomes to be delivered, and to provide better information on the results to be achieved. This needs to go beyond the number of papers to be written, or meetings to be held, to truly indicate the difference the UN will make in the lives of the people of our countries. We were encouraged during the informal meeting to hear from the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts that such improvements are continually being looked for. We trust that these will be clearly reflected in the draft strategic framework for 2016/17 which we understand the Secretariat will soon begin to prepare.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.