



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by Mr. Sun Xudong
Counselor, Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations
on Agenda Item 136: Financial Situation of the UN
(15 May, 2014)

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation wishes to thank USG Mr. Yukio Takasu for introducing the financial situation of the United Nations. The Chinese delegation endorses the statement made by the representative of Bolivia on behalf of G-77 and China. I would like to make the following observations and proposals regarding the financial situation of the UN.

Mr. Chairman,

In general, the financial situation of the UN is slightly better now. As of 30 April, 79 member states had paid their contributions in full; there is a \$13 million reduction in the amount of unpaid contributions compared with the same period last year; the number of member states that have paid in full is slightly higher than last year. This is the result of positive efforts made by member states. Financial considerations are important in order for the UN to carry out its functions. Solid financial capabilities are an important reflection and a strong guarantee of a strong, stable and vigorous UN. Therefore, all member states should in good faith fulfill their respective financial obligations and pay their assessments on time, in full and without conditions.

Even though the situation is acceptable in general, according to the introduction made by the USG, the financial situation of the UN remains unsatisfactory. As of 30 April, the amount of unpaid assessments has reached 3 billion US dollars, of which \$1.39 billion is for regular budget

contributions, \$1.5 billion for peacekeeping assessments, and \$149 million for the two international tribunals. Without guarantee of funding, it is very difficult for the UN to carry out its normal operations smoothly.

The Chinese delegation is concerned about this and is of the view that if this matter is not resolved promptly and effectively, the UN will not be able to play its role fully. In fact, this is not a difficult and insurmountable problem. It is very simple and the golden key to the resolution lies in the hands of all member states----they must pay their assessments on time and in full. In order for the UN to maintain a healthy financial momentum and in order to help the UN to resolve this simple problem, the Chinese delegation would like to make an appeal: that all member states fulfill in earnest their financial obligations under the Charter, so that the UN can better perform its functions, and so that this Organization can better serve mankind on a healthy and stable financial basis.

Mr. Chairman,

In recent years, the share of China's contributions and peacekeeping assessments has increased drastically. We are paying an amount as high as 600 million US dollars and over in contributions and assessments per annum. China is a developing country with a low capacity to pay. However, as a responsible major country, it works actively to raise funds every year to pay its UN assessments. As the USG indicated in his introduction, China has already paid in full its 2013 contributions as well as its 2013 assessments for the two tribunals and peacekeeping. In March 2014, China also paid half of its 2014 contributions. It should be particularly noted here that on 13 May 2014, China paid in full its 2014 contributions and assessments for the two tribunals, as well as most of its peacekeeping assessments. I would like to request that the Secretariat promptly update this information.

Mr. Chairman,

China will, as always, support the UN in strengthening its role. We believe that all member states should, on the basis of political good will, fulfill in earnest their financial obligations under the Charter, so as to ensure that the UN can better perform its functions. At the same time, the Secretariat should strengthen its administrative and budgetary management, clarify financial disciplines, exercise economy, and make effective use of every penny paid by member states.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.