

## THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

## PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

335 East 45<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, N.Y. 10017 Tel (212) 439-4000, Fax (212) 986-1083

Statement by Mr. KIM Jihoon

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

Fifth Committee of the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly

Item 141: United Nations Common System

13 November 2013 New York

< Check against Delivery >

My delegation would like to thank Mr. Kingston Rhodes, Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission, Mr. Johannes Huisman, Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division, and Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of ACABQ, for presenting their respective reports. I would also like to thank Mr. Mauro Pace, the President of the Federation of International Civil Servants' Associations and Ms. Paulina Analena, President of the Coordinating Committee for International Staff Unions, for their statements.

Among many important issues of the United Nations Common System, I would like to touch on two issues. Regarding the ongoing comprehensive compensation review, UN staff members deserve remuneration and benefits that adequately reward their contribution and address their unique status as international civil servants. At the same time, we need to monitor whether the compensation package can not only attract a competitive workforce, but also make sure that it serves to inspire serving staff to further excel in their careers.

Regarding the post adjustment and margin issue, my delegation commends the ICSC in setting the one-year margin at 119.8 in response to the heavy financial burden of the MS. However, if the margin is maintained at that level, we will see the 5-year average margin approach the upper limit of 120. This may cause financial burden to member states when many of them are taking austerity measures. In this regard, my delegation would like to reaffirm our trust that the ICSC will help the General Assembly consider options to address the 5-year margin issue.

Because we acknowledge the importance of these issues at hand, we look forward to working with all other Member States, the International Civil Service Commission, and the Secretariat in this session.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman. /END/