

STATEMENT

*Representative of Algeria*

On behalf of the African Group by ~~Amb. Beatrice Pacunega~~, at the ~~Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations~~, on the implementation of GA res 67/261: TCC rates of reimbursement, at the second resumed part of the sixty-eight session the General Assembly - Fifth Committee

(New York, 9 May 2014)

Mr. Chairman,

- 1- I have the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group on the on the implementation of GA res 67/261: TCC rates of reimbursement during the second resumed part of the sixty-eight session of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.
- 2- The African Group fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the representative of Bolivia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The African Group attaches great importance to the work of the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. Last year the General Assembly approved resolution 67/261 mandating a new survey methodology as recommend by the SAG which will give General Assembly an opportunity to make an historic decision for the peoples serving in difficult environment to maintain peace and security around the world.
- 3- The Group would like to express its appreciation to the 10 Member States who participated in the survey. The sample countries were a good representation of the top TCC/PCCs drawn from four income categories.
- 4- Throughout the process of the survey the secretariat provided regular updates to Members States on the progress, in this regard the Group wishes to thank the secretariat for the transparency demonstrated, furthermore the Group expresses its gratitude for preserving the confidentiality of the data collected.

**Mr. Chairman**

5- In 1974 after several consultations a rate of \$500 was adopted and became the first standardized TCC reimbursement rate. Rates were since increased to \$680 and \$950 in 1976 and 1980 subsequently; they were reviewed again 1991 and 2002 with a percentage increase pending results on of the survey. 40 years later after several surveys failed to provide adequate and comparable data, the committee meets to reconsider the rates based on the new survey methodology.

6- The historical facts underscore the urgency and the high importance of providing impartial reimbursement to TCC for expenses incurred for deploying troops. TCCs are called upon to deploy to remote, uncertain operating environments and into volatile political contexts in pursuit of stability, peace and security.

7- UN Peacekeepers are increasingly being asked to undertake a wide variety of complex tasks often in none desirable environments, in this regard the Group is of the view that facilitating TCCs in the very important work of the UN peacekeeping is of high priority to enable the missions across the globe to fulfill their mandates. Peacekeeping operations have become more challenging, multi-dimensional and often operating in the most challenging environments putting the safety, security and well-being of UN Peacekeepers in jeopardy.

**Mr. Chairman**

8- The report in front of us reaffirms our commitment to peacekeeping operations as stipulated by the data, TCCs are spending a lot more to ensure troops are deployed with the proper training to deliver their mandates. The survey took into account expense categories previously not considered for reimbursement yet are very pertinent to the deployment of troops. The cost of inland

transportation, pre-deployment medical and pre-deployment training are vital to the sustainability of peacekeeping operations in the long run.

9- The Group is confident that a successful outcome is mutually beneficial to address all of our concerns; the Group therefore rejects any alternative solution and looks forward to a revised rate of reimbursement.

In conclusion, I wish to reiterate the African Group's readiness and willingness to constructively engage in negotiations on this agenda item. In a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust, this Committee should be able to adequately provide a fair reimbursement accordingly.

I thank you.