

BRAZIL

68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Fifth Committee Implementation of resolution 67/261: TCC's Rates of reimbursement

9 May 2014 (Please check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Brazil aligns itself with the statement made by the representative of Bolivia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

I would like to thank the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Hervé Ladsous, and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support, Ms. Ameerah Haq, for introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the results of the survey conducted pursuant to resolution 67/261. I would also like to thank the Chairman of the ACABQ, Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, for introducing the related report of the Advisory Committee.

Mr Chairman,

The complexity of peacekeeping mandates and their operational requirements have significantly changed over the past decade. These transformations have had a great impact on the meaning and implications of being a troop or police contributing country, as it demands enhanced efforts in pre-deployment training, high standards for equipment, and contribution of a large array of specialized units. Above all, the evolution of peacekeeping missions entailed a renewed commitment of TCCs in deploying its citizens for more complex and dangerous operations, with increased risks to the life of its nationals.

While new requirements and expectations with regard to troop and police performance have constantly evolved, the debate on a revision of the rates of reimbursement to troop and contributing countries has stalled. This situation contributed to the aggravation of an unfair and inequitable situation.

The concept of partnership is based on the idea of sharing the *burden* of a joint undertaking, not only its benefits. For too long, the TCCs have recovered only a

fraction of the cost they have incurred by committing their military resources to the peacekeeping partnership.

We all know how difficult the discussions on this issue have been in the past years. We also know that the adoption of resolution 67/261 entailed important concessions on the part of all TCCs. It was the result of a comprehensive agreement made possible by the understanding that the framework adopted would lead us to a meaningful increase in the reimbursement rate.

Mr Chairman:

This new framework for the review of troop reimbursement was in our view the most important result of Resolution 67/261. It reflects the consensus achieved on the principles to guide the review process and on the elements to be considered in the calculation of new rate. We agreed that the review of the standard rate of reimbursement will be done on a regular basis, based on data collected from TCCs.

We also agreed that the review must include aspects related to current trends in peacekeeping, in particular the importance attached to the preparation of troops and pre-deployment training. Finally, resolution 67/261 determined that an interaction should happen between the Secretariat and TCC's with a view to ensure completeness and consistency of the data collected.

As one of the sample countries in the survey, Brazil would like to underline that the new framework for troop reimbursement, in addition to its direct benefits on the fairness, predictability and transparency of the reimbursement system, has also significantly contributed to enhancing the dialogue between TCCs and the Secretariat. Brazil would like to thank the Secretary-General for the diligent work carried out during the conduction of the survey.

We strongly believe that a better understanding by the Secretariat of the efforts made by troop and police contributing countries as part of their commitment to peacekeeping operations is fundamental for a renewed partnership.

Mr Chairman,

All the elements that we, Member States, requested for a decision on the establishment of a new rate are before us today. The results of the survey carried out pursuant to resolution 67/261 clearly demonstrate the deficit between the current reimbursement rate and the financial costs of TCCs. The data allow us to decide on a new rate, which is essential for maintaining the work carried out by this Organization in promoting international peace and security.

Today it is the responsibility of this Committee to rise to the challenge of agreeing on a solution that is not only fair to TCC's, but also to the sustainability of the peacekeeping partnership.

We assure you, Mr. Chairman, of the constructive participation of our delegation during negotiations with a view to achieving a solution in this very important agenda item.

Thank you.