



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

**By**

**Miss Carmel Power**

**First Counsellor, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations**

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

**Item 147: Administration and budgetary aspects of financing UN PKOs -  
Implementation of GA resolution 67/261 on rates of reimbursement to troop-  
contributing countries**

**United Nations**

**New York**

**9 May 2014**

**- AS DELIVERED -**

Mr Chairman,

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

The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, and Serbia\*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EFTA country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, align themselves with this statement.

Mr Chairman,

I would like to thank Mr Hervé Ladsous, Under Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, and Ms Ameerah Haq, Under Secretary General for field support, for presenting the report of the Secretary General on the "Results of the revised survey to establish the standard rate of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries" pursuant to GA resolution 67/261 on the report of the Senior Advisory Group (SAG), and the Chair of the ACABQ, Mr Carlos Ruiz Massieu, for introducing that Committee's report. We are also very glad to have the Controller with us today.

Mr Chairman,

When we adopted GA resolution 67/261 on the Report of the Senior Advisory Group on rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and other related issues last year, we saw this agreement as an important step for peacekeeping and looked forward to its implementation in the firm belief that this serves the best interests of the UN, of UN peacekeeping and also of all the Member States. We remain committed to the implementation of the SAG recommendations as approved by us in resolution 67/261. The revised survey process is a key aspect of SAG follow-up. So we welcome the work that has been done and would like to thank the Secretariat for all their hard work against a challenging deadline. We would especially like to thank the ten Member States that participated in the survey for their commitment and positive engagement in the survey process, and for ensuring that the survey was completed in full and on time.

Mr Chairman,

At the start of this session, we said we were looking forward to discussing this issue which is a sensitive one and where we understand the concerns that have been expressed by many TCCs. We also said we looked forward to a constructive outcome that preserves the SAG balance and consolidates the partnership for peace.

In this regard, we would like to reiterate our continued commitment to ensuring that UN peacekeeping is effective and serves the need of maintaining peace and security. The Member States of the European Union have a specific interest in supporting strong and effective UN

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\* The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

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peacekeeping: almost all Member States of the European Union are not only important financial contributors but also support peacekeeping on the ground, both with uniformed personnel and other capabilities. We are therefore very conscious of the shared sense of responsibility, but also of the clear benefits that result from active participation in peacekeeping.

A political and operational commitment to peacekeeping makes demands of us all to ensure we make the most effective contribution possible. In doing so, we must bear in mind the possibly heavy budget implications at stake, in a context where the peacekeeping budget is already very likely to reach an historic peak. Accordingly, over the course of the informal, we will raise serious technical questions on certain aspects of the survey, notably on the understanding of the data collected as well on its processing. Our goal, ultimately, remains to maintain and reinforce the quality and the sustainability of UN peacekeeping.

In conclusion, Mr Chairman, we look forward to engaging constructively with all colleagues and ultimately to a sustainable, predictable and affordable agreement on this important and sensitive issue.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.