

<Kindly Check Against Delivery>

**REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP BY
MR. JUSTIN KISOKA, MINISTER COUNSELOR AT THE PERMANENT
MISSION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 134. PROPOSED PROGRAMME
BUDGET: BIENNIUM 2016-2017, ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF
UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND AT THE MAIN PART
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY-FIFTH COMMITTEE**

(New York, 10 November, 2015)

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to thank Mr. Adebowale O. Adeniyi, the Chair of the Pension Board, Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas the Assistant Secretary-General, Controller as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for introducing respective reports under this agenda.

The Group align itself with the remarks by the Representative of the Republic of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

The African Group would like to reaffirm its position on defending the interests of the beneficiary of the Pension Fund. We also reaffirm our position on the need to diversify the investments of Fund to the developing countries particularly in Africa.

The Group further reaffirms the need to respect the prerogative of the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs including the Board of Auditors and the Pension Board.

In this regard we would like to stress the need to rectify, immediately the existing anomalies on the consideration of the Board of Auditors reports on Pension Fund---by ensuring the separate reports are submitted to the General Assembly through Advisory Committee and the COPY ,continue to go to the Pension Board for their deliberations on matters within the Pension Board's mandate in line with established mandates in particular paragraph (g) of the General Assembly resolution 74(I) so as to ensure efficiency, transparent and accountability.

The Group would like to stress that, any changes to the mandate in this matter is a sole prerogative of the General Assembly and that the Pension Board is not above the General Assembly. The Group would like to stress that this matter be respected.

Mr. Chairman,

The Group will also be paying its close attention to other matters including those related to fraud in the Pension Fund. Furthermore we will be interested to seek clarification on the question of the Investment Committee in particular on issues related to appointment and terms of the members.

The Group will also be interested to have access of the 'in-session report' of the Pension Board for our deeper understanding of a number of specific issues.

We stand ready to provide our inputs to address specific elements related to this agenda in a transparent manner.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.