

Statement by Mr. Abbas Yazdani
First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations
before the Fifth Committee on agenda item 136, "Improving the financial situation of the
United Nations: Secretariat statement"

New York- 4 May 2016

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman

At the outset, I wish to thank Mr. Yukio Takasu, Under Secretary-General for Management, for the presentation on the financial situation of the United Nations on 4 May 2016. I also wish to express my appreciation to the Office of Contributions for the updated information on the assessments for Member States.

With regard to the Secretariat statement on "Financial situation of the United Nations" my delegation would like to inform you that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always had the intention to pay its contribution to the budget of the United Nations in full and on time. Current failure to make necessary payments is a consequence of the illegal unilateral sanctions and restrictions imposed against us to access international banking systems. These constraints caused too much difficulty for Iran in timely meeting its financial obligations in recent years.

Nonetheless, the Islamic Republic of Iran has made utmost efforts to reduce its outstanding contribution and has transferred over \$17 million to the UN account through different channels in December 2015 and January 2016. However, these channels have their own limitations in terms of capacity to absorb more funds.

In conclusion, I'd like to reiterate that the Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to its financial obligations to the United Nations budget and current failure is due to conditions beyond its control. Accordingly, I wish to ask the Secretariat through you Mr. Chairman to reflect this explanation in the report of the Committee.

I Thank you.