

Check Against Delivery

**Statement**

**By**

**H.E. Ambassador Mahlet Hailu, Deputy Permanent  
Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
to the United Nations**

**At**

**The 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the General Assembly, Second Resume  
Session of the Fifth Committee Meeting on Agenda Item 150,  
*Financing Arrangement for the United Nations Interim  
Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), Note by the Secretary-  
General***

**25 May 2017**

**New York**

**Madam Chairperson,**

At the outset, I wish to express our appreciation for the effort made by the Secretariat and the ACABQ, who have managed to submit their respective documents before us, on Financing arrangements for UNISFA, for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. Let me also thank Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, Assistant-Secretary General, the Controller and Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieur, Chairperson of the ACABQ, for the presentations just made.

As has been noted in the report of the Secretary- General on the Budget Performance of the Mission, during the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, the security situation in the Abyei Area remained peaceful but unpredictable. This is a clear testimony of the effectiveness of UNISFA's mandate delivery, which would have not been possible without the diligent work of the Mission. Unfortunately, while the UNISFA is expected to do more in its mandate execution with lesser resources, and the message that the United Nations is sending by failing to reimburse amounts due is neither justifiable nor fair.

We believe in learning from past experiences, be it good or worst. Therefore, avoiding same mistakes in the future is not only a matter of principle, but that is the minimum expected from all of us and the UN. In view of this, we wish to concur with the recommendation of the ACABQ under paragraph 10 of its report of 22 May 2017, and call for cooperation of the Fifth Committee to endorse quick reimbursement of the outstanding claims as well as

the resource required to close financing gaps for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, as submitted by the Secretary General in his Note Dated 21 April 2017 under paragraph 8, a, b and c.

**Madam Chairperson,**

As we have stated in our remarks on 15 May 2017 in this hall, I wish to reiterate the call for unity of purpose in the Committee, which is not able to make progress in its current informal negotiations. We trust that reaching agreements on justifiable and appropriate resources requirements for the functioning of the UN and Peacekeeping Operations is our common responsibility. Accordingly, it is our strong desire, as the Africa Group and G-77 are doing, to work in support of expediting the ongoing negotiations.

I thank you,