

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP BY MR. KODJOVI DOSSEH
OF PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TOGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON
THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING THE
MAIN PART OF THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

New York , 3rd October, 2014

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the African Group on the Organization of work of the Fifth Committee during the main part of the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly. Our Group fully aligns itself with the statement just delivered by the representative of Bolivia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and we would like to make few additional remarks.

Mr. Chairman,

The Group would like to congratulate you, Ambassador František RUŽIČKA, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations on your election as the Chairman of our Committee. We would also like to extend our congratulations to all other members of the Bureau on their election. Our Group would like to assure you of our continued commitment in support of your work. The Group would further like to express the appreciation to the excellent work of the previous bureau under the outstanding leadership of Ambassador Janne Taalas of Finland.

With regard to the Organization of work, the African Group would like to acknowledge, with appreciation the efforts of the Bureau to prepare the Programme of Work and welcomes the designation of the facilitators of the various agenda items that are before the Committee. It is our understanding also that, the POW will continue to be adjusted taking into account development in negotiations and status of documentation.

The African Group has also taken note of the status of documentations and would like to again raise its concern about the delay in the issuance of official documentation for the Fifth Committee that has become the norm with a detrimental impact on the capacity of the Committee for making informed decisions. We therefore urge the Secretariat and other stakeholders to take all necessary measures to ensure that all reports are issued and available to Member States on time so as to ensure effective consideration of agenda items before us. The Group will follow up on this matter on specific agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

During this session, We will focus on many agenda items of interest to us. It is our expectation that, the Committee conclude on many of the pending issues carried forward from previous sessions. Among others, our Group expects to reach outcomes on issues related to the financing of Peacekeeping Operations as well as Special Political Missions in particular the question of backstopping and alternative for funding-including the possibility of establishing a separate account for the special political missions which is long overdue. We will also closely examine the issues related to the human resource management, common system, construction and property management including at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa in particular the renovation of the Africa Hall and the future of old facilities at the United Nations Office in Nairobi and the financing of the proposed Mission for Ebola Emergency Response and. Furthermore, the Group will follow items related to oversight in the organization, conditions of services for judges and those of the ACABQ Officials, programme planning and performance as well as outcome on the independent study on recosting as part of our priorities.

Mr. Chairman,

The African Group would like to reaffirm its long-standing position that, the work of this Committee must be conducted in an open, all inclusive and transparent manner and within the allocated official time-frame. The Group will not subscribe to closed-door deliberations in small configurations. We have trust in you that, you will ensure that these basic principles in intergovernmental deliberations are adhered to.

In conclusion, the Group would like to assure you of our readiness to engage constructively with other delegations with the aim of reaching positive outcomes on issues before this committee and at the expert level.

I thank you Mr. Chairman