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STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR RAMLAN IBRAHIM PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON AGENDA ITEM 136: IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE 70TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, 22 OCTOBER 2015

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me begin by thanking Mr. Yukio Takasu, Under-Secretary General for Management for introducing the Secretary General's report on Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations and the briefing to the Fifth Committee on this item on 15 October 2015.

2. Malaysia aligns itself with the statement made by South Africa, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and the statement delivered by Singapore of behalf of ASEAN.

Mr. Chairman,

- 3. Malaysia is pleased that the financial situation of the United Nations remains sound in 2015. The Report indicates that 128 Member States have contributed US\$2.77 billion to the Regular Budget as of 2 October 2015. In this regard, Malaysia would like to underscore that financing this Organization is an obligation of all Member States. Financial obligation must be seriously taken by Member States and that we will continue to provide our contributions in a timely manner.
- 4. While the overall financial situation of the UN is sound, however Malaysia is concern that unpaid assessments to the Regular Budget has totalled USD1.05 billion. Contributions to the Regular Budget, the Peacekeeping Budget, the Tribunals and Capital Master Plan are important funds that need our abiding commitment. The lack of funds can undermine the activities of the United Nations. We wish to stress that these funds must be given their due attention as without our financial support, the United Nations would not be able to carry-out its mandate effectively as prescribed by Member States.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Malaysia is also concerned with the status of the USD 1.46 billion in outstanding contributions to the Peacekeeping Budget. Malaysia is mindful of the fiscal cycle of the various UN Peacekeeping missions and those of the Member States. My delegation acknowledges that financing peacekeeping operations should signify our serious commitments to international peace and security, with 17 peacekeeping missions and about 100,000 peacekeepers currently deployed with an approved budget of US\$7.83 billion. In this regard, Member States should be committed in ensuring that these missions are not hampered due to lack of proper financing.

Mr. Chairman,

6. The financing of the United Nations is the common responsibility of its Member States. The strength of this Organization is only equal to the commitment of all 193 countries. We must recall that the UN is our Organization and thus, it is our responsibility to ensure that the mandate that we have prescribed can be implemented. The financial health of the United Nations is of outmost importance to ensure its effectiveness.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.