



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

By

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-- As Delivered --

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the European Union.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Serbia* and Albania*, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EFTA Country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me thank Mr. Yukio Takasu for his presentation, as Under-Secretary-General for Management, on 4 May, as well as for his update of this morning, which provided us with useful information on the financial situation of the United Nations as well as on how Member States fulfil their obligations under the UN Charter to contribute to the financial expenses of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

To ensure the sound management of UN financial resources continues to be a priority for the EU Member States. This goal is a joint responsibility of the Member States and the Secretariat, they both have to take their respective responsibilities seriously, and provide and utilise funding in a responsible manner.

We have learned from Mr. Takasu that, as at 30 April 2016, the number of Member States that had paid their assessments to the regular budget in full had slightly decreased since the same time last year and the significant level of

* *The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.*

outstanding assessments remained a concern. We have also been informed that the number of those that had paid all peacekeeping assessments had decreased since the same time last year, while the number of those that had paid all tribunal assessments had increased..

Mr. Chairman,

Equally importantly, the presentation by Mr. Takasu, reminds us that the financial indicators for 2015 are generally positive for all categories, however, the level of cash available for the regular budget is expected to again tighten towards the end of the year. As we hear that the final outcome will largely depend on incoming contributions in the remaining months of the year, we encourage Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full and as soon as possible. At the same time, we wish to reiterate that it is imperative that concrete steps are taken, at all levels, to spend more wisely, to deliver in new ways, and to ensure that the Organization lives within the agreed budget levels. This applies to all activities of the UN, from peacekeeping, to construction, to the regular budget.

Mr. Chairman,

The Member States of the European Union are committed to providing the Organisation with the necessary resources to conduct its work and firmly believe that an unceasing effort must be made to find new and creative ways of work to achieve more effective delivery of mandates and sustainable use of resources.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.