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STATEMENT BY

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PERMANENT MISSION OF GHANA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS**

**ON THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE
FIFTH COMMITTEE**

AT THE

**SECOND RESUMED PART OF THE SEVENTIETH
SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

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70th Session of the General Assembly

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is my first time addressing this Committee this Session, let me begin by sincerely congratulating you on the assumption of this important position. The Ghana delegation wishes to express its confidence and trust in your leadership to provide the desired guidance and focus in the Fifth Committee in this second part of the resumed seventieth session of the General Assembly, just as you successfully did in the two previous sessions. We would also like to acknowledge the remarkable efforts of the Secretariat and members of the Bureau in assisting the committee to achieve a successful and smooth functioning of the Committee.

Ghana associates itself with the statements just delivered by the representatives of Thailand on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the United Republic of Tanzania on behalf of the African Group.

Mr. Chairman,

On the draft program of work for the second part of the resumed seventieth session, one cannot deny the fact that the programme of work of the committee keeps increasing as the years go by. My delegation is concerned about the limited time scheduled for consideration of each of the agenda items and in this regard, would like to encourage a spirit of open and transparent negotiations amongst all parties in order to address the issues before us successfully and within the time allocated. We also discourage closed door and small room configurations during the negotiation period in order to involve all in the negotiation and deliberation process, thereby ensuring transparency and inclusiveness in the final outcome.

Mr. Chairman,

Timely issuance of documents of the committee still continues to pose a critical challenge for the effective functioning of this Committee. A number of documents especially reports of the ACABQ are yet to be issued even though the second part of the resumed session has commenced. My delegation hopes that the Secretariat will be able to meet this challenge in subsequent sessions and ensure that the six weeks rule for the distribution of required documents to delegations is adhered to. We consider this requirement as vital if small delegations like ours are to have adequate time to study these reports for effective engagement during the sessions.

Mr. Chairman,

The integrity of the United Nations depends, among others, on our ability to deliver the core mandates of the Organization successfully, which include those entrusted to the large number of peacekeeping and special political missions around the world as a key component of the maintenance of international peace and security. As one of the top ten contribution countries to UN peace keeping operations, the Government of Ghana remains committed to towards this important mandate of the Organization and wishes to indicate that in an environment where resources are increasingly becoming scarce, we should explore ways to improve efficiencies, effectiveness and greater accountability while ensuring that Missions are responsive to the respective mandates by resourcing them adequately.

In this regard, my delegation wishes to mention the report of the Board of Auditors, the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS), the United Nations Operations in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI), crossing cutting issues and a few others.

The Ghana delegation intends, therefore, to participate fully in the deliberations on all the issues before the Committee during this resumed session in concert with the African Group and the Group of 77 and China working in close collaboration with all member states for outcomes go to strengthen international peacekeeping and political missions.

Mr. Chairman,

Even though we are all aware that issues mostly negotiated at the second part of the resumed seventieth session are mainly on peacekeeping operations, my delegation would like to reiterate the concern raised by the African Group regarding addressing the pending proposal on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)/ Addis Ababa Action Agenda(AAAA) as well as the revised estimates of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and the outcome of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPO) which is also of high priority to my delegation. We recall among others the commitment made by our Heads of States and Government in signing the agreement on the SDGs in September last year and encourage all negotiating parties to work with zeal and passion during the consideration of these agenda items for a successful outcome.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, it is our strong belief that in addition to political support, resources and capabilities are critical to the success of peacekeeping and special political missions, and that it is the responsibility of this Committee to see that those resources are available, timely and adequate. Under your very able leadership, we look forward to constructive engagement with all colleagues on all of the important issues on our agenda and to reaching positive consensus outcomes that strengthen the global partnership and sustain the important work of the United Nations peacekeeping over the coming year. The Ghana delegation is ready to collaborate with all partners in a constructive spirit in the upcoming deliberations to reach successful and timely conclusion of this main session.

I thank you - Mr. Chairman