

Remarks by Ambassador Cho Tae-yul

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On the occasion of the 5th Committee Formal Meeting

On the UN Management Reform

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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

At the outset, I would like to join the previous speakers in expressing my sincere appreciation and support for the Secretary-General's vision in reforming the UN into a more nimble, efficient, and effective organization. I am confident that, through the Secretary-General's bold initiatives and efforts, the 70-plus-year-old UN will successfully redevelop itself into a younger and stronger organization to address the numerous global challenges we are now confronted with.

Among all three pillars of the reform initiatives, I would like to single out the management reform as THE most important in a way that it will provide a foundation for both the Peace and Security reform and the Development reform, as well as the entire UN system. I believe management reform should be treated like the air we breathe—as a daily essential that we sometimes take for granted, and one that takes a good amount of collective effort and time to improve. But once we successfully change it, the effect will be a far-reaching and enduring one, influencing everyone in the system.

This is why I would like to emphasize the fact that that "we are all in this together." Whether we are Member States, members of the Secretariat, or other UN-related entities, we all have to work together to deliver on management reform by traveling the right direction to the right destination.

As we did for the Political Declaration adopted last September under the sponsorship of more than 133 Member States, we must continue to support the Secretary-General's reform initiatives regardless of the regions and groups, so that the Secretary-General can have an opportunity to show his vision to tackle UN related issues based on his newly reformed organization.

The time to act is now. We, Member States, must not lose momentum. We commit ourselves to adopt a pro-reform Resolution in this main session.

In this regard, I would also like to request the Secretary-General make further efforts to provide more concrete, constructive, and feasible reform measures based on the opinions and advice expressed by the ACABQ members and the member countries today.

I also would like to ask the Secretary-General to engage with the staff members in a more proactive manner, so that they can fully be aware of their ownership of the overall reform efforts, as well as their indispensable role in their moving forward.

Having said that, let me conclude my remarks with one specific question.

As far as I understand, one of the top priorities that the Secretary-General presented in his report is expanding the flexibility of the financial resources, including the easier budget redeployment. Considering that the ACABQ as well as some member states expressed some reservations on this proposal, I would like to know how the Secretary-General would like to enhance his flexibility while addressing their concerns, especially in terms of balancing accountability with increased authority.

Thank you.