



**Seventy-second session main part:
Agenda item 135. Programme budget biennium 2016-2017**

**Fifth Committee of the General Assembly
20 October 2017**

**Fifteenth annual progress report on the implementation of the capital
master plan (A/72/294)**

**Statement by
Mr. Patrick Carey, Officer-in-Charge
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Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to introduce to you today the Secretary-General's Fifteenth Annual Progress Report on the Capital Master Plan, A/72/294. This report is submitted in accordance with the request contained in paragraph 34 of section II of resolution 57/292 and paragraph 16 of resolution 70/239.

Major progress on remaining portions of the project has been achieved since the General Assembly last took up this subject during its 71st session, namely continued implementation of the post-renovation activities, commissioning and punch-list corrective activities, and administrative tasks in support of the closeout of the project.

I am pleased to inform the General Assembly that as of August 2017, all construction works, including punch-list and commissioning work, for all the various scopes of the capital master plan project and its sub-components, including the landscaping of the North Lawn and the security-related work at 42nd and 48th Street entrances, had been completed and had achieved the status of Final Completion.

In addition, the accounts associated with 23 of the 24 guaranteed maximum price contracts with the Construction Management company have been reconciled and paid.

The remaining activities are administrative close-out, reconciliation of accounts and payment of invoices with respect to the contracts with the design, engineering, project management and construction companies associated with the works that have been recently completed. It is expected to conclude this close-out exercise by 31 December 2017, following

which we will submit the sixteenth and final report to the General Assembly at its main 73rd session.

I am also pleased to advise that the cost of all construction and close-out activities is being met from within the existing approved resources for the capital master plan project. The financial position of the project remains consistent with the projection presented in the latest fourteenth annual progress report.

Substantial benefits have been realized from the capital master plan. In 2017 the energy consumption is expected to have reduced by 67% compared with the pre-CMP levels of 2006. In turn, this reduction in energy consumption is expected to result in monetary savings in utilities costs in 2016-2017 of 47.9% in comparison to 2006-2007 and of 14% in comparison to the most recent biennium 2014-2015.

I can also advise that the two arbitration cases brought by the construction management company are on-going, and the Office of Legal Affairs, with the help of outside legal counsel, is vigorously defending the interests of the Organization in these matters.

As of 31 July 2017, the total approved funding for the capital master plan project and the final cost of completion is \$2,150.4 million. This amount comprises appropriations for the original project scope of \$1,876.7 million, donations of \$14.3 million, interest income and the plan's working capital reserve amounting to \$159.4 million and \$100.0 million funding for the enhanced security upgrades.

The costs of all construction and close-out activities are being met from within the existing approved resources of the capital master plan project.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Secretary-General, to reiterate our gratitude for the strong political and financial support of Member States throughout this project.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.