

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BOTSWANA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS BY FIRST SECRETARY KATLEGO BOASE
MMALANE DURING THE CLOSING SESSION OF THE MAIN PART OF THE
SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE UNGA**

(New York, 30 DECEMBER 2020)

Mr. Chair,

1. I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Botswana to the United Nations at this closing session of the main part of the seventy-fifth session of the Fifth Committee.
2. Let me first note that my delegation aligns itself with the statement of the African Group just delivered by H.E Ambassador Mohamed Siad Doualeh of Djibouti and the comments and remarks expressed by Megayla Austin Minister Counsellor of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana to the UN on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. With that I would like to make a few additional remarks.
3. My delegation wishes to extend its profound gratitude to the Chair of the Fifth Committee and his Bureau, the Fifth Committee Secretariat, as well as ASG and controller and his team and of course the Chair of ACABQ and his hardworking team for the support rendered during this time.
4. As we conclude this main session that has been conducted in unique and unprecedented circumstances, it is important to recognize the resilience of the fifth Committee in executing its mandate even in the strangest of circumstances, including “negotiating while at home the United Nations Regular Budget.” My delegation therefore wishes to thank other delegations for their constructive engagement and flexibility in the entire process, and we look forward to building on this positive momentum during the first resumed session of the seventy-fifth session.

Mr. Chair,

5. My delegation is thankful for the accomplishments achieved this session, among others,

- Approval of the Regular Budget's \$3.2 billion as a whole;
- Budgeting of Special Political Missions
- Financing of PKO's most specifically UNAMID
- The United Nations Pension Fund
- Pattern of conferences
- The United Nations Common system
- Administration of Justice

Mr. Chair,

6. As a delegation, under the Ambit of the Group of 77 and China and the African Group Botswana places greater interest in protecting the development Pillar in all its aspects including the budget of, OHRLLS, UNCTAD, UN-Habitat, and Regional Economic Commissions.

7. My delegation also places great interest in seeing the UN and its regional and sub-regional entities engage in partnerships on the most pressing Peace and security issues especially in the African continent. It only makes sense for the UN to work hand in hand with these Organisations to avoid duplication of efforts, but maximize on the gains.

8. In conclusion, Mr. Chair, Let me take the opportunity to congratulate you and the Bureau once again. It is, by and large, your able stewardship during this uniquely challenging session that led us here, as a Member of your Bureau, be quiet assured Botswana shall remain steadfast in supporting the greater cause of this August body.

A Happy New Years to you all.

I thank you

