



PHILIPPINES

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by
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Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations

Item 141. Proposed Programme Budget for 2022
10:00 am, Wednesday, 13 October 2021, CR 123

Thank you, Chair. The Philippines thanks Secretary General Antonio Guterres for his report on the Proposed Programme Budget for 2022. We also thank the ACABQ for the Committee's presentation of its report.

My delegation aligns itself with the Statements made by Guinea on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and of Singapore on behalf of ASEAN.

Chair, the programme budget is the concrete reflection of our collective priorities and aspirations. The proposed programme budget should provide adequate resources to implement all mandates entrusted to the UN by Member States. Member States should pay their contributions in full and on time to ensure that the UN can fulfill its mandate.

We note that the Secretary-General's 3.18 billion USD 2022 budget proposal is a 2.80 percent reduction from the GA's 2021 appropriations. We trust that the proposed level of resources is adequate for the full, efficient, and effective implementation of mandates, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chair, we are into the third year of the annual budgeting process, one of the key features of Secretary-General's management reform initiatives. We reiterate the importance of the sequence of the review processes conducted by the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and the ACABQ in the programme planning and budgeting process. The Philippines looks forward to the General Assembly conducting a thorough review of the sequential process of the budgetary cycle on the implementation of the annual budget at its 77th session.

We acknowledge the Secretariat's earnest efforts in continuing to improve the budget presentation. We welcome the proactive efforts of the Secretariat in seeking the views of Member States. We stress the importance of comparability of information in the

budget presentations. Member States should also be given reasonable time to properly reflect on the proposals and be provided timely written responses to written questions. The Philippines is committed to working constructively on this matter.

Thank you, Chair.