



STATEMENT

BY

His Excellency Mr. Nkopane Raseeng Monyane

**Ambassador & Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of
Lesotho to the United Nations**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 140: IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL
SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

(New York, 28 October 2021)

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Mr. Chair

Being the first time for my delegation to take the floor in this committee, I wish to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the Fifth Committee. I would also like to extend my congratulations to all the Members of the Bureau on the assumption of their new roles and responsibilities.

Mr. Chair

Appreciation is extended to Ms. Catherine Pollard, Under Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, for her presentation on the financial situation of the United Nations on 19 October 2021. I would also like to thank Mr. Chandramouli Ramanathan, Assistant Secretary-General, Controller, for his briefing on 11 October 2021 regarding the management of the liquidity situation of the Organisation.

Mr. Chair,

Lesotho aligns herself with the statements made by Guinea on behalf of G77 and China and Kenya on behalf of the African Group. In national capacity, Lesotho would like to make the following comments;

The current global health crisis instigated by the Covid-19 pandemic has already brought about an economic crisis globally, proving a challenge not only to individual national economies, but for the entire world economy. This has particularly crippled the least developed and landlocked countries economically.

Cognizant of the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19 and continuing adverse impacts of climate change on member states' economies, with also increased debt

distress and limited fiscal space, Lesotho would like to commend those member states who nonetheless continue to fulfill their financial obligation by paying their assessments in full and on time, as well as those member states who make efforts to make partial payments. Their noble effort has resulted in net collections of \$139 million more than estimated in the month of April.

The ongoing financial uncertainty in the UN system is a huge detraction from the mandate of maintaining peace, dignity and equity among nation states in a healthy planet to liquidity management and requisite financial support to carry out the said mandate.

Mr. Chair,

In this regard, I would like to take this opportunity to urge member states who have the capacity to fulfill their financial obligations, but have not honored this obligation, do so in full, on time and without conditions, so as to enable the organization to function at full capacity towards achieving its mandate of making this planet a better place for all. At the same time, we must take into account the special situations faced by some developing countries, which hamper them from honoring their financial commitments by their political will.

Lesotho would like to reaffirm its commitment to participate constructively towards resolving the financial difficulties faced by the UN.

I thank you, Mr. Chair