



United Kingdom
Mission to the
United Nations

**Statement on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
to the United Nations 75th General Assembly Fifth Committee Second Resumed
Session, by Clelia Uhart**

Wednesday, 29 June 2022

Mr Chair,

On behalf of the United Kingdom, I'd like to express my gratitude for your tireless efforts in guiding us towards timely closure, in support of certainty and adequate resources for UN peacekeeping operations. I am very grateful also for the work of the Bureau members, the UN Secretariat, our very patient colleagues from the Fifth Committee Secretariat, and of course the ACABQ and its own secretariat.

I am pleased that we agreed financing for Peacekeeping Operations, including mission and support operation budgets, and troop reimbursement rates in good time. As ever the United Kingdom took account of budgetary evidence and worked to support efficient, well managed resources, in support of full mandate delivery.

I am delighted that in addition to Peacekeeping budgets, we achieved many other positive outcomes this session. The Committee has provided cross-cutting policy guidance on peacekeeping operations for the first time in five years. Amongst other things, this will improve standards of accommodation in the field, strengthen peace transitions, enhance women's participation in peacekeeping, redouble efforts to prevent sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, and support effective performance and full mandate delivery. We strongly appreciate the constructive, tireless and flexible efforts of delegations from all regions on this item.

We are pleased too, that the Committee took advantage of the unique and unexpected opportunity of regular budget underspend due to the impact of COVID, to agree measures that address structural challenges of the Financial Situation of the United Nations. This puts the organisation on a better financial footing, while also finding an agreeable solution to the long-standing issue of closed peacekeeping missions.

We welcome the new solution for funding PTSD claims, which will support better mental health in uniformed personnel, and new resolutions to improve inclusivity for UN staff and delegates, for people with disabilities, and to provide resources to implement the Secretary General's efforts to combat racism and discrimination.

We appreciated the positive engagement from delegations on the important issue of peacebuilding finance, and also that the important long-standing principle of consensus-based decisions in this Committee was maintained and supported.

Although we did not reach agreement this session, our exchanges helped build better understanding of each other's views, which will provide a good basis for constructive engagement in the Main session.

Finally the Committee made an important breakthrough on working methods, through the practice of remote meetings in evenings and weekends, combined with in-person meetings to build cooperative spirit and reach consensus. We look forward to the Committee continuing to explore and adopt effective and inclusive working methods, including hybrid sessions, and to working on this with incoming Chair and Bureau members, and the rest of the committee.

Finally, I wish all colleagues a restful and restorative summer.