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Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 30 June 2014, at noon

Chair: Mr. Taalas (Finland)
*Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions:* Mr. Ruiz Massieu

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Organization of work

Closure of the work of the Fifth Committee at the second part of the resumed sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly

The meeting was called to order at noon.

The meeting was suspended at noon and resumed at 12.10 p.m.

Agenda item 131: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.43)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.43: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

1. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.43 was adopted.*

Agenda item 148: Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.48)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.48: Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei

2. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.48 was adopted.*

The meeting was suspended at 12.15 p.m. and resumed at 12.20 p.m.

Agenda item 150: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.49)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.49: Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

3. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.49 was adopted.*
4. **Ms. Pacunega Manano** (Uganda), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, said that, while the Group had agreed to the adoption of the draft resolution in the spirit of consensus, it was to be hoped that the provisions thereof would not affect the elections to take place in Côte d'Ivoire in October 2015.
5. **Mr. Ouattara** (Côte d'Ivoire) said that the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) was entering a crucial phase. The budget for UNOCI would help support the organization of the general elections scheduled for October 2015, which would represent a milestone in consolidating peace in Côte d'Ivoire and in the region. His Government would like to see provisions made to ensure that the planned budgetary reduction for the mission did not exceed the reduction provided for in Security Council resolution 2162 (2014); that UNOCI received all necessary resources in

a timely fashion for the proper implementation of its mandate during the 2014/15 period; that the partial provision of resources to UNOCI did not establish a precedent that might weaken current and future peacekeeping operations owing to short-term management constraints; and that a substantial portion of the savings achieved as a result of resolution 2162 (2014) should go to the mission's support for the organization of the elections.

Agenda item 151: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.50)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.50: Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

6. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.50 was adopted.*

Agenda item 152: Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.51)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.51: Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

7. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.51 was adopted.*

Agenda item 154: Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.38)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.38: Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste

8. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.38 was adopted.*

Agenda item 155: Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.52)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.52: Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

9. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.52 was adopted.*

Agenda item 156: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.53)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.53: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

10. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.53 was adopted.*

Agenda item 157: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.54)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.54: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

11. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.54 was adopted.*

Agenda item 158: Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.55)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.55: Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

12. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.55 was adopted.*

Agenda item 159: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (*continued*)

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.56)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.56: Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

13. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.56 was adopted.*

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.39)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.39: Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

14. **The Chair** recalled that the Committee had considered the draft resolution at its 44th meeting, held on 30 May 2014.

15. **Mr. Goren** (Israel) said that Israel, in maintaining good relationships with all peacekeeping forces in the region, including the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, had demonstrated its ongoing support for all such operations. He expressed gratitude to all troop-contributing countries and all those who supported peacekeeping operations. As the only country in the region to have paid all its assessments in full and on time, Israel had offered tangible evidence of the sincerity of its statements in support of peacekeeping. Bias and politicized language had no place in Fifth Committee resolutions and were merely intended to further institutionalize an anti-Israel narrative at the United Nations. His Government's position on the matter before the Committee was known and remained unchanged; he was therefore requesting a vote on the fourth preambular paragraph

and paragraphs 4, 5 and 13 of the draft resolution, and would vote against them.

17. *A recorded vote was taken on the fourth preambular paragraph and paragraphs 4, 5 and 13 of the draft resolution.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Canada, Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

18. *The fourth preambular paragraph and paragraphs 4, 5 and 13 of draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.39 were adopted by 86 votes to 4, with 51 abstentions.*

19. **Mr. Hitti** (Lebanon), speaking in explanation of position, said that the wording of the proposed paragraphs was not political in nature, since they merely called upon Israel to comply with previous General Assembly resolutions requesting it to pay reparations to the Organization in the amount of \$1,117,005 for the shelling of the United Nations compound at Qana in 1996, which had destroyed the UNIFIL headquarters, killing 108 Lebanese civilians and injuring scores of others who had sought refuge in the compound. The reparations were entirely earmarked to compensate the United Nations for damage to property; none would go to the Lebanese State or the victims' families. As the matter was purely financial in nature and concerned the financing of peacekeeping operations, it was naturally within the purview of the Fifth Committee.

20. **The Chair** said that a recorded vote had also been requested on the draft resolution as a whole.

21. *A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as a whole.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia,

Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Canada, Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

22. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.39 as a whole was adopted by 137 votes to 4.*

23. **Mr. Mari** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the States members of the European Union, said that they were concerned at the lack of consensus on the draft resolution and the politicization of the Committee's work. The delegations had abstained during the voting on the fourth preambular paragraph and paragraphs 4, 5 and 13 of the draft resolution in the conviction that the text as drafted was inappropriate in a draft resolution pertaining to the financing of UNIFIL. In April 1996, the General Assembly had discussed the broader political aspects of the events concerned, including the incident at Qana, and adopted resolution 50/22 C. The States members of the European Union had stated their opinion on those political aspects at that time. While they wished that the Committee's deliberations had been confined to the budgetary aspects of the financing of UNIFIL, they had nevertheless voted in favour of the draft resolution as a whole, in order to provide the necessary funding for UNIFIL to fulfil its mandate.

24. **Mr. Lieberman** (United States of America) said that, while his Government strongly supported UNIFIL, the use of funding resolutions to pursue claims against a Member State was procedurally incorrect. His delegation had therefore opposed the draft resolution, which called on Israel to pay costs stemming from the incident at Qana. Consequently the draft resolution, like similar resolutions in previous years, had not been adopted by consensus. The procedure followed almost since the founding of the United Nations was for the Secretary-General to present and pursue the settlement of the Organization's claims against a State or States. Using a funding resolution to legislate a settlement was inappropriate

and should be avoided, as it politicized the work of the Fifth Committee.

Agenda item 160: Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.57)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.57: Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

25. **Mr. Sumitro** (Deputy Secretary of the Committee) said that the beginning of paragraph 9 of the draft resolution should read “Recalls paragraphs 17 and 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee”.

26. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.57, as orally amended, was adopted.*

Agenda item 161: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.40)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.40: Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan

27. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.40 was adopted.*

Agenda item 162: Financing of the United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.37)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.37: Financing of the United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic

28. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.37 was adopted.*

Agenda item 163: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.58)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.58: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

29. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.58 was adopted.*

Agenda item 164: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.59)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.59: Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

30. **Mr. Sumitro** (Deputy Secretary of the Committee) said that paragraph 13 should read “Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur in a total amount not exceeding 639,654,200 dollars for the period from

1 July to 31 December 2014”. Subsequent paragraphs would be adjusted accordingly.

31. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.59, as orally amended, was adopted.*

Agenda item 165: Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.60)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.60: Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)

32. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.60 was adopted.*

Agenda item 176: Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (*continued*) (A/C.5/68/L.61)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.61: Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic

33. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.61 was adopted.*

Agenda item 147: Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (*continued*)

Rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries (A/C.5/68/L.44)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.44: Rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries

34. **Mr. Sumitro** (Deputy Secretary of the Committee) said that, in paragraph 4, the words “resolution 67/261” should be followed by a comma and the phrase “welcomes the results of the revised survey”.

35. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.44, as orally amended, was adopted.*

36. **Ms. Malcorra** (Chef de Cabinet) said that the Committee had made an important achievement in approving budgets for peacekeeping operations that represented efforts to achieve efficiencies while also ensuring that missions had the necessary resources and personnel were fully equipped to fulfil their mandates. The Committee’s endorsement of the recommendations of the Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment would lead to a much-needed rotation of ageing equipment and updating of the equipment

requirements for police units and medical services for troops. In adopting the draft resolution on rates of reimbursement (A/C.5/68/L.44), delegations had tackled a major challenge that had vexed the General Assembly for many years. The preservation of consensus in the Committee would put the peacekeeping partnership on a sounder footing. It was a matter of concern, however, that the delays in the deliberations might have sent a signal of uncertainty concerning the finalization of peacekeeping budgets. It was to be hoped that the appropriate lessons would be learned and that such a situation could be avoided in the future. Member States and the Secretariat should build on the agreement reached in order to preserve and strengthen the partnership that supported not only peacekeeping but also the Organization as a whole.

Triennial review of the rates and standards for reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment (continued) (A/C.5/68/L.45)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.45: Triennial review of the rates and standards for reimbursement to Member States for contingent-owned equipment

37. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.45 was adopted.*

Support account for peacekeeping operations (continued) (A/C.5/68/25; A/C.5/68/L.46)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.46: Support account for peacekeeping operations

38. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.46 was adopted.*

United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (continued) (A/C.5/68/25; A/C.5/68/L.47)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.47: Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

39. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.47 was adopted.*

40. **The Chair** drew attention to the note by the Secretary-General on the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (A/C.5/68/25), which, in accordance with the prorating procedures approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/221 B, indicated the amounts to be apportioned in respect of each peacekeeping mission, including the prorated shares of the support account and of the United Nations Logistics Base. He took it that the

Committee wished to take note of the information contained in the note by the Secretary-General.

41. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 134: Programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (continued)

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council (continued) (A/C.5/68/L.42)

Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.42: Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

42. **Mr. Sumitro** (Deputy Secretary of the Committee) said that, after paragraph 9, an additional paragraph should be inserted that read "Recalls paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee (A/68/7/Add.27), and in this regard decides to defer consideration of this matter to the main part of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly".

43. *Draft resolution A/C.5/68/L.42, as orally amended, was adopted.*

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/68/L.49: Modalities for the third International Conference on Financing for Development (A/C.5/68/L.41)

Draft decision A/C.5/68/L.41: Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/68/L.49

44. *Draft decision A/C.5/68/L.41 was adopted.*

Agenda item 132: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (continued) (A/C.5/68/L.62)

Questions deferred for future consideration

Draft decision A/C.5/68/L.62: Questions deferred for future consideration

45. *Draft decision A/C.5/68/L.62 was adopted.*

Organization of work

46. **Mr. Mayr-Harting** (Observer for the European Union) said that it was of fundamental importance that, in the end, the principle of decision-making by consensus in the Fifth Committee had not been

compromised. That principle was essential for the future of peacekeeping and for wider budgetary matters. The European Union was disappointed that agreement had been reached only under the threat of a vote, which had called into question the well-established working method of consensual decision-making on all resource-related matters.

47. **Mr. Llorentty Solíz** (Plurinational State of Bolivia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the reference to the threat of a vote was surprising, as the source of the difficulties in the Committee's negotiations was well known. It had been the Group's understanding that an agreement had been reached to respect the conclusions of the Senior Advisory Group on rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and related issues. It had therefore been disappointing to realize that, a year after the negotiations had begun and after two decades without an increase in reimbursement rates, the anticipated results on an increase had not been achieved. The Group stood by its position that there should be impartiality in the work of the Committee and that the holding of closed-door meetings at which some Member States were not represented was not an acceptable working method.

48. **Mr. Ono** (Japan) said that it was particularly important for the Fifth Committee to honour its tradition of decision-making by consensus.

49. **Mr. Kisoka** (United Republic of Tanzania) said that, while he agreed on the importance of reaching consensus in the Committee, the delay in the consideration and finalization of many items had caused difficulties for some delegations, particularly when the Committee for Programme and Coordination had begun meeting while the negotiations in the Fifth Committee were still under way. The Fifth Committee had been capable of completing its work in a timely fashion in the past and should be capable of doing so in the future, regardless of the complexity of the items under consideration.

50. **Mr. Patriota** (Brazil) said that the Fifth Committee should respect the established practices and budgetary procedures and should refrain from creating exceptions and special solutions, which would not serve it well in the long term. The methodology applied to negotiations in the Committee should be improved; delegations should be more respectful of the expert level of the discussions, should avoid the tendency to

wait until the last minute to state their positions, and should engage more fully in dialogue so as to share their positions and objectives in greater detail. The voices of all those who had a stake in peacekeeping should be heard.

51. **Mr. Khalizov** (Russian Federation) said that the package agreement reached had relieved the concerns of troop-contributing countries and would benefit peacekeeping operations. The Secretary-General should ensure transparency in cost-cutting measures by presenting full information on such measures and their results in his reports on peacekeeping operations.

52. **Mr. Sánchez Azcuy** (Cuba) said that his delegation was concerned at the practise of holding closed meetings within the framework of the Committee's work. The Fifth Committee should set an example of efficiency and good use of the time and resources allocated to it. It should review its working methods and hold a substantive debate on the matter with a view to taking tangible steps to improve its work.

Completion of the work of the Fifth Committee at the second part of the resumed sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly

53. After an exchange of courtesies, in which **Mr. Mayr-Harting** (Observer for the European Union), **Mr. Llorentty Solíz** (Plurinational State of Bolivia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, **Ms. Pacunega Manano** (Uganda), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, **Mr. Lieberman** (United States of America), **Mr. Ono** (Japan), **Mr. Kisoka** (United Republic of Tanzania), **Mr. Patriota** (Brazil), **Mr. Khalizov** (Russian Federation), **Mr. Sánchez Azcuy** (Cuba), **Mr. Sarki** (Nigeria) and **Mr. Rivas** (Uruguay) took part, **the Chair** declared that the Fifth Committee had completed its work at the second part of the resumed sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 2.05 p.m.