



**Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union**

**By**

**Mr. Jan De Preter**

**Counsellor, the European Union Delegation to the United Nations**

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**Item 138: Improving the financial situation of the UN**

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Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de prendre la parole au nom des États membres de l'Union européenne.

L'ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine\*, le Monténégro\*, la Serbie\* et l'Albanie\*, pays candidats, la Bosnie-Herzégovine, pays du processus de stabilisation et d'association et candidat potentiel, et le Liechtenstein, pays de l'AELE membre de l'Espace économique européen, ainsi que la République de Moldavie, l'Arménie, et la Géorgie se rallient à la présente déclaration.

Monsieur le Président,

Permettez-moi de remercier Mme Jan Beagle, Secrétaire général adjointe au Département de la Gestion, pour sa présentation la semaine dernière sur la situation financière des Nations Unies et sur la façon dont les États membres ont rempli leur obligation au titre de la charte des Nations Unies de contribuer aux charges financières de l'ONU.

Garantir la santé financière des Nations Unies est une responsabilité partagée: un partenariat entre les États membres et l'organisation. Cette responsabilité partagée est fondamentale à la capacité de l'ONU à répondre à ses nombreux mandats et missions. La promotion de la bonne gestion financière des Nations unies constitue donc une des priorités des Etats Membres de l'Union européenne. Il est de la responsabilité de chaque État membre de verser sa quote-part dans son intégralité, dans les délais et sans conditions.

With this in mind, Mister Chair, we are pleased to see that more Member States – 134 – have paid their regular budget contributions in full than this time last year, and that the level of unpaid assessments is lower. We are also pleased with the significant increase of available cash.

Nevertheless, the Under Secretary-General has been clear in her assessment of the impact, namely severe cash problems in the final months of 2017, unless sufficient contributions are received. We encourage Member States to pay their assessed

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\* L'ancienne République yougoslave de Macédoine, le Monténégro, la Serbie et l'Albanie continuent à participer au processus de stabilisation et d'association.

contributions in full and as soon as possible We call on those member states that have unpaid assessments for 2017 to address this as a priority.

Turning to peacekeeping, we commend the significant reduction in outstanding payments to Member States and the increase in the number of Member States which have paid their assessments in full. However, more progress can still be made. We note with concern the decrease in the amount of total cash available for peacekeeping.

We note also progress in receiving assessed contributions for international tribunals. However, we note ongoing difficulties in securing voluntary contributions for tribunals not included in assessed costs and we continue to call upon donors to fund these tribunals through voluntary contributions.

Mister Chair,

Financial health depends not only on the reliability of funds coming in. It depends also on the standards applied to how the funds are spent. The UN must continue to strive to spend more wisely, more accountably, and in line with agreed budget levels. In that regard we welcome the management reform proposals launched by the Secretary General as they will lead to more transparency and better accountability.

The Member States of the European Union are committed to providing the Organisation with the necessary resources to conduct its work, while believing firmly that there is still substantial room for improving the UN's operation by adopting approaches aimed at further savings and efficiencies, and by promoting meaningful reprioritisation of activity and the delivery of results.

Thank you, Mister Chair.