



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

By

Mr. Gerton van den Akker

Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

68th Session of the General Assembly

Fifth Committee

Item 134. Programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Capital Master Plan (CMP)

United Nations

New York

31 October 2013

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the European Union.

At the outset, I would like to thank Assistant Secretary-General Mr. Adlerstein for
presenting the eleventh annual progress report on the implementation of the Capital

(1) the financial situation of the project, (2) lessons learned and (3) the sequencing of UN major capital projects.

Financial situation of the project

The Member States of the European Union have expressed their concerns about the project cost overruns on many occasions, which are currently estimated to total €215 million. We

have called for a transparent accounting of all project costs and made it clear that we expect the Secretariat to pursue further savings and work on cost-reduction measures, including by providing more information regarding savings from swing space and rental contracts, in order to remain within the approved project budget and scope. It is unfortunate that the

