

**Agenda item 134. Programme budget: biennium 2014-2015**

**Organizational Resilience Management and storm Sandy**

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**Introductory remarks by Mr. Stephen Cutts,**

**Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services, Department of Management**

**6 March 2014**

Mr. Chairman, dinnentr4r TJ 266.068 0 Td [(r)-7.65133(a)3.15789(l)-2.53658(')2.3678(s)-1.7465( )-230.92(r)2.3

- An ORMS Policy for the United Nations Secretariat was approved by the senior emergency policy team;
- The Under Secretary-General for Management has been appointed as the ORMS project owner;
- Each Secretariat duty station has been requested to appoint a project manager who will be responsible for local implementation of the ORMS policy;
- At its next session in early April, the High Level Committee on Management will consider the potential to align emergency management practice on ORMS.

ORMS has now been fully implemented at the United Nations Headquarters, and the Secretariat will now shift the focus of implementation to the rest of the Secretariat, while exploring interest amongst the agencies, funds and programmes.

Mr. Chairman,

As we advised the ACABQ, the central lessons learned from the storm Sandy experience was that ORMS, as an approach to harmonize and integrate emergency management disciplines, is an essential framework for the United Nations in facing severe disruptive risks and how to handle disasters. As described in the report, the Secretariat has significantly enhanced organizational resilience at the United Nations headquarters, in terms of both physical protection against flood risk, enhancements to emergency management systems