



BRAZIL

United Nations General Assembly
Fifth Committee

Mr. Chairman,

I wish to congratulate you on your election as chair of this Committee, as well as the other members of the bureau. I can assure you of my delegation's support and constructive participation.

I would like to thank H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Sec

hand, are among those who believe the UN has a central role to play and that resources should be deployed accordingly, especially with a view to strengthening the development pillar of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

Blaming the recosting methodology for increases in the budget level defies factual evidence.

In recent years, the General Assembly adopted by consensus a series of resolutions that strengthened the work of the Organization. It approved increases in the number of posts in areas such as the Department of Safety and Security (which didn't even exist until 2004), the Department of Political Affairs, the Ethics Office, The Office of Internal Oversight, ICT/ERP projects, and the development pillar. The General Assembly also decided to provide necessary resources to an increasing number of Special Political Missions that have received significantly enhanced and more complex mandates. In all cases, when Member States decided to strengthen these crucial areas of the Organization, the costs were made clear.

The existing recosting methodology ensures that activities planned for the biennium are not negatively impacted by currency fluctuations and inflation, which are normal and expected in an Organization of global stature. The idea of merely “absorbing” recosting undermines the methodology. What's more, it does nothing to address the underlying drivers of cost increases. Instead, the calls for recosting “absorption”, coupled with the creative interpretation that the "budget outline" represents some sort of absolute hard cap on the Organization's actual expenses, have been used to impose a downward spiral of continuous reduction of assessed contributions to mandated activities, and to circumvent the prerogatives of the General Assembly in deciding resource allocation.

unfortunate situation we find ourselves at this juncture: Member States approve posts after exhaustive budget negotiations and the Secretariat elects which ones should be filled. Since 2011, we have let our intergovernmental decisions be undermined by a practice which is similar to some sort of automatic budget sequestration mechanism, which has disproportionately impacted development activities. This needs to stop.

Mr. Chairman,

We are convinced that the Secretariat can be more e

development pillar. Furthermore, last year, we approved the totality of the revised estimates required as a result of the adoption of the Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20.

We cannot allow the dwarfing of the Organization's capacity at a time when it is entrusted with the mission to implement the results of Rio, accele

Mr. Chairman,

Efficient allocation of resource cannot be achieved at the expenses of Member States prerogatives. We support upholding the democratic principles of transparency, accountability and participation. "No taxation without representation".

Thank you.