



**Report of the Secretary-General on  
the Fifth Progress Report on the Enterprise Resource Planning Project (Umoja)  
(A/68/375, A/68/375/Add.1)**

**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

Statement by  
Mr. Yukio Takasu,  
Under-Secretary-General for Management  
2 December 2013

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

1. I have the honour to introduce the Secretary-General's fifth progress report on the Enterprise Resource Planning project, Umoja. This report is submitted for your consideration pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/243 and addresses the requests made by the Assembly in its resolution 67/246. ASG Baca, Project Director for Umoja, joins me. I would like to express my gratitude to the Chairman of the ACABQ for its thorough consideration of this subject and for its report.
2. At the last session, the General Assembly approved the project's revised deployment strategy and timetable. Since then, Umoja has made significant progress, much of which is documented in the fifth progress report. After the report was completed, Umoja Foundation was successfully deployed at its Pilot locations of UNIFIL and UNSCOL on 1 July 2013. And on 1 November, the major milestone was achieved with the Foundation successfully deployed to the Cluster 1; 12 peacekeeping operations, the Regional Service Center in Entebbe and the Global Service Center in Brindisi. Umoja is now a fully operational live system, covering 3,000 staff members globally.
3. Umoja is at the centre of the Secretary-General's management reform initiatives. It has been one of the top priority concerns of this Committee. As the project owner, I assure you that Umoja is receiving the highest attention throughout the Secretariat likewise. Through Umoja, we are harmonizing administrative processes and building standardized and integrated service delivery. As a new operating model, Umoja creates opportunities for improved oversight, leaner administration process and additional efficiencies. The full implementation of Umoja is essential to make the UN a more efficient, global and unified Organization.

4. The fifth progress report provides an update on the results of the major project changes presented in last year's report. The implementation strategy proved highly valuable, as lessons learned from the pilot in July supported the successful go-live in peacekeeping missions in November. Valuable lessons learned were derived from both the Pilot and Cluster 1 roll-out. Most importantly, the business readiness activities associated with migrating from disparate operating models to a single, common operating model proved more challenging than expected. For instance, data reconciliation and data cleansing were extremely complex and labour-intensive. Particularly in the area of business partners data, important lessons were derived that will allow to adjust our data preparedness procedures in future implementations.
5. As explained in the addendum to the fifth progress report, the Steering Committee decided in August that deployment would be carried out in Cluster 1 (peacekeeping missions) on 1 November 2013 and in Cluster 2 (special political missions) on 1 February 2014 on the basis of experience gained during the July 2013 pilot at UNIFIL, particularly regarding the business readiness activities. After the Cluster 1 roll-out on 1 November, additional areas requiring adjustment were identified. The Steering Committee decided to deploy Cluster 2 on 1 March 2014, together with Extension 1 pilot at MINUSTAH. We are determined to take necessary steps to ensure the achievement of project milestones.
6. Governance has strengthened considerably over the past year, especially the concept of

