



**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
VÉRIFIER AU PRONONCÉ**

**STATEMENT BY
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PERMANENT MISSION OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON BEHALF OF CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (CANZ)**

**DURING THE GENERAL DISCUSSION ON
THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UN
IN CONFERENCE ROOM 4 OF THE NORTH LAWN BUILDING**

NEW YORK, 17 OCTOBER 2013

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I have the honour to speak today on behalf of Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Since this is the first time that CANZ is addressing the committee this session, please allow us to offer you our congratulations on your election to the Bureau of the Fifth Committee. We have every confidence that under your leadership, the committee will successfully conduct its business during this session in a constructive and cooperative spirit and will conclude its work in a timely manner.

We would also like to thank Mr. Yukio Takasu, Under-Secretary-General for Management, for his presentation on October 9th on the financial situation of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

CANZ delegations take note of some positive signs in the UN financial situation, particularly as the Organization and its Member States continue to confront a difficult international economic environment. The fact that 33 Member States were current in all their obligations to the Organization as of October 9th, 2013, as compared with 31 in this position at the same time last year is a welcome development, as is the fact that 134 Member States have already paid their regular budget assessments for the current biennium in full.

We note with some concern, however, that the total of all unpaid assessed contributions was \$90 million higher on October 1, 2013, than in October 2012. We are concerned that as we enter the final quarter of the year, the total cash currently available is not sufficient to cover disbursements through to the end of the year. We are, of course, mindful that this position can, and we expect will, be improved as Member States take action in respect of their unpaid assessed contributions.

As always, we will be monitoring the ongoing situation closely.

CANZ delegations note with cautious optimism that although the total amount outstanding for peacekeeping operations as of October 1st, 2013 had grown by \$2.1 billion from the amount at the end of 2012, the percentage of paid peacekeeping operations assessments had risen to 65 percent of the total, as compared to 60 percent one year ago. We also note that the level of these assessments for 2013 was higher than in the previous year. It is of growing

