



**STATEMENT BY MR MARK SEAH  
DELEGATE TO THE 68<sup>TH</sup> SESSION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ON AGENDA ITEM 139: HUMAN RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
ON BEHALF OF ASEAN MEMBER STATES  
AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE**

**(New York, 21 October 2013)**

1 Thank you, Mr Chairman. It is a real pleasure to have you chairing our meetings with punctuality and efficiency. This is an example of good resource management. We also thank our esteemed colleagues from the Ethics Office, JIU, ACABQ, and UN Secretariat for their briefings.

2 I make this statement on behalf of the ten member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). These are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Mr Chairman,

3 We align ourselves with the statement made by Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. We also thank the Secretary-General for his reports A/68/358 "Towards a global, dynamic and adaptable workforce" and A/68/356 "Composition of the Secretariat: staff demographics". ASEAN and the UN share a common view on the importance of our people, as they are an invaluable resource. To quote UNGA Resolution 67/255, we "emphasise the fundamental importance of human resources management reform in the United Nations". We therefore commend the efforts of the Secretary-General to reform outdated practices and to streamline processes.

4 ASEAN takes note that there are many UN resolutions and reports from the Secretary General which highlight the need for gender and geographic representation. We are concerned that developing countries and women remain under-represented at the

