

Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

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H.E. Ambassador Ioannis Vrailas Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

68th Session of the General Assembly Fifth Committee

Organisation of Work First Resumed Session

United Nations New York

3 March 2014

Mr. Chairman,

Before delivering our statement, I would like to say that we share the concerns of the G77 and China on the Secretariat's proposed changes to UNHQ ground passes. This is also likely to cause serious problems for our Delegations as well as for others.

of the associated costs in an accountable and transparent manner. At the same time, we continue to remain concerned about the last stages of the project and its related final financial developments. These matters, such as the handling of the associated costs covering the period 2008-2013, and the future of the South-Annex building and the Dag Hammarskjold library, require a thorough discussion in the Fifth Committee.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, the Member States of the European Union are looking forward to working constructively once again with all partners during this session so that we can conclude negotiations on all the issues before us at the very latest by 28 March, as is foreseen in the Programme of Work. We should certainly not repeat the now too frequent overruns seen in recent sessions.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.