



Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

by

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Chair, Secretary General

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the European Union.

The Candidate Countries Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*

Montenegro*, Serbia* and Albania*, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia, align themselves with this statement.

Chair, Secretary General,

I would first like to thank you, Mr. Secretary-General for your presentation of the proposed United Nations Programme Budget for the years 2018-19. Your presence is a clear demonstration of the importance of this agenda item. I would also like to thank the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, Mr Carlos Ruiz Massieu, for his presentation of the report of that

The budget document we consider today has seen improvements compared with recent years. It reflects efforts by the Secretariat to increase transparency and streamline processes, including through technology such as using ICT W

also acknowledge the improved presentation of resources, and the streamlined layout of performance measures.

But today's budget proposal also bears the marks of years of incremental

methods. And also to allow senior managers flexibility to shift resources within

managers more closely accountable for the resources they use and the results they achieve. We will continue to focus on the need for transparency and the provision of clear and precise information throughout the budget process, to help you implement mandates as effectively as possible.

To conclude—Mr. Chair, we are committed to working constructively to ensure