

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP BY MR. M^oRCIO B
THIRD SECRETARY OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON AGENDA ITEM 141: HUMAN
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, AT THE MAIN PART OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH
SESSION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

(New York, 31 October 2017)

Mr. Chairman,

The African Group aligns itself with the statement just delivered by the d
representative of Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

The Group wishes to thank the Assistant Secretary-General for Human
Management, Ms. Martha Helena Lopez for the introduction of the Secretary-General's
report on Human Resources Management as well as Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chairman of the
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), for
introducing the related report.

We would like to take this opportunity to renew its compliments and gratitude
for their invaluable contribution to the delivery of the mandates of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

The Group takes note that the report of the Secretary-General related to the

An equitable geographic representation in the Secretariat remains the priority of the Group. Regarding this issue, we note with serious concern that the number of Member States within the desirable range for representation of Member States in geographical distribution has decreased by 18 per cent from 125 to 102. Also, the largest number of posts subject to geographical distribution were of staff of overrepresented States.

The Group will be interested to learn more about the reasons of the above situation despite the appeals of the General Assembly on the importance of recruitment on a wide geographical basis as possible to reflect the diversity of staff from all over the world. In this regard, we will need to have information on the progress of the implementation of the General Assembly decision regarding the desirable range for representation to address the issue of geographical representation. It would also be useful to include in the first analysis on the inclusion in the report of the two new tables to show the geographical groupings for all staff of the United Nations Secretariat.

Mr. Chairman,

The Group notes also with concern, the persistent issue of the ever increasing

Turning to the proposed amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules, the Group wishes to seek more information on these issues during informal consultations and in this connection, the Group will carefully examine the amendments relating to retirement age and the allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Mr. Chairman,

Human Resources represent the most important asset of the Organization and our attention for an effective delivery of the Organization's mandates. Guided by this objective, the African Group stands ready to engage constructively on this agenda item with an expectation of fruitful deliberations during the informal negotiations.

I thank you.