

Mr. Chair,

1. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Group on agenda item 143: Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.

2. The African Group extends its appreciation to Ms. Catherine Pollard, Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC) for the presentation on the financial situation of the Organization made on 7 May 2021 and for introducing the report of the Secretary-General A/75/387/Add.1.

3. The Group also expresses its appreciation to the Office of Contributions for the updated information on the payment of assessments by the Member States and its continued support to the Member States in the process of fulfilling their financial obligations.

4. The African Group aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Representative of Guinea on behalf of the Group of 77 & China. We wish to add a few remarks.

5. The Group is pleased to note that collections in April spiked to a record \$1 billion hence reaching a cumulative 76% of the mYUfNj UggYgga YbhVmh\Y`YbX`cZ April. The Group salutes the Member States that were able to make their contributions in this period and on time. We encourage all the Member States that are in a position to pay their contributions in full, on time, and without conditions, to do so in order to avert the distressing financial situation to the Organization.

6. The African Group is, however, concerned that the cash situation with regard to the regular budget remained a source of grave concern throughout the 2020 period despite the strict cash conservation measures, including the suspension of hiring for regular budget operations that were implemented in the year.

7. The Group is particularly concerned that the year also ended with another new record for outstanding regular budget contributions of \$808 million hence breaking another record for all the wrong reasons. It is untenable to imagine that an organization such as ours, due to a severe liquidity crisis, had to rely on

