

REPUBLIC OF  
BOTSWANA

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BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Mr. Chair,**

1. As this is the first time am taking the floor, let me start by congratulating

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2. We join other delegations in thanking Secretary General Gutteres, for spearheading the introduction of this important agenda item reflected under 138 ***“Proposed Programme Budget for 2000”***

8. As the Secretary General himself has stressed, this budget is very much needed to support Member States in this critical moment of humankind. From the COVID-19 pandemic, climate crises issues of humanitarian and development affairs, peace-building and sustaining peace to protracted and longstanding challenges such as poverty and hunger.

9. To attain such, my delegation has always believed that a budget that is

sound and equitable to the challenges and developmental needs at hand is what is required, not one that sustains the status quo.

**Mr. Chair,**

10. Among many priorities of this August body, the development of Africa is amongst the 8 listed priorities of the United Nations, therefore having just listened to the statement of Ghana on behalf of Africa my delegation would be very much interested in appreciating the Secretary General's efforts and plans for Africa at both regional and sub-regional level, as expressed by Member States when adopting the previous budget for 2021 in December last year.

11. As the Organization continues to implement its three-year strategy

**14.** Increased coordination and collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations so as to achieve more with less is therefore crucial for the UN if we are to see progress since the UN, the African Union and the 5 sub-regional organizations all have the same goals towards attaining the 2030 Agenda.

**15.** Let me in conclusion Mr. Chairman state that the ... ..

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