



General Assembly Third Committee

6 November 2013

Item 143:  
Administration of justice at the United Nations

Statement delivered by

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Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

Check against delivery

Mr. Chairman,

We take note with appreciation of the two recent reports by the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations (A/68/346), on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services (A/68/158), as well as thereport by the Internal Justice Council (A/68/306). The processing of cases through all phases of both the informal and formal systems continues to demonstrat

keep up this level of success, in order to avoid a significant increase in the length of time needed to conclude a case.

We also note with appreciation the investments made over the past year into improving the courtrooms and other facilities – as requested by the GA - which are supposed to be fully operational in all three duty stations by the end of this year. These and other technical measures will allow the Tribunal to work even more efficiently, with the potential of further reducing the time needed to decide a case.

Concerning the work of the UNAT we are somewhat concerned about the relatively high number of decisions and judgments by the UNDT that get appealed to the UNAT, two-thirds of them by staff, about one third on behalf of the SG, with markedly different success rates. The judges of the UNAT ring the alarm bell by stating that the steady influx of new cases – if nothing is done - will push the new system into crisis. We fully agree with UNAT's position that an accumulation of a backlog of appeals which plagued the old system needs to be avoided8(u)-0.956417(t9431(s)-21.7848(y)9.0

members who happen to represent applicants, either as OSLA staff or otherwise, is already

the new set of proposal at this session, and look forward to hearing the views of other delegations.

As to the issue of taking measures against abuse of proceedings which the GA raised in resolution 67/241, we thank the IJC for its very th