

(As delivered)

Statement by Mr. Ken Mukai
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Fifth Committee
Second Resumed Part of the Sixty-third Session
of the United Nations General Assembly
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Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation wishes to join other delegations in expressing its appreciation to you, your staff, the distinguished members of your bureau and the Secretariat for the excellent work you have all done during the second resumed session. In particular, my delegation would like to commend the tireless efforts of the bureau members, which have held the meetings eighty three times since last September.

There is no need to remind the committee that at this session we have approved a budget of \$7.7 billion in total resources for peacekeeping operations, a new record, even as the world faces unprecedented financial and economic challenges. This being the case, it is all the more important for the United Nations to strengthen its oversight, management and financial control. In this regard, we would like to encourage the Secretariat to enhance regional and inter-mission cooperation with a view to achieving greater synergies in the use of the resources of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me also to touch briefly on the major organizational issues before us.

At the beginning of this session, my delegation once again pointed out that all documents had not been made available to us sufficiently in advance of the start of the session. We would like to emphasize that strict adherence to the six-weeks rule stipulated by General Assembly resolution 47/202 and other

resolutions is widely expected by Member States. We also note that the delays were seen regardless of the efforts made by the task force in the Secretariat to expedite documentation. In this connection, we propose incorporating the six-weeks rule in the financial rules and regulations, which may raise the awareness of this rule and enhance further collaboration between budgeting and documentation in the Secretariat. It is accordingly high time for the Secretariat and Member States to consider what further action should be taken to ensure compliance with this long-established and commonsense operating procedure.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation also wishes to raise the issue of the schedule for the first and second resumed sessions of this committee. Due to the heavy workload for this committee and the late submission of PKO documents, it was impossible to start the session as originally scheduled on May 4 and conclude within the four weeks originally scheduled. During the last week, seven new agenda items were introduced, four of them with advanced ACABQ reports distributed only one day beforehand, and three ACABQ reports without the results of costing analysis. My delegation therefore would like to express again the view that it is high time to consider holding the second part of the resumed session during the six weeks from mid-May to the end of June and shortening the first resumed session to two weeks in March, which would allow us to remain within the eight weeks of conference resources of this committee. C34 and CPC meetings could then be rescheduled so as not to overlap our sessions. Over the next few months, my delegation would like to hear other delegations' views on this issue. The issue also should be duly taken up at the forthcoming session on the pattern of conferences in September.

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to stress that it is unfortunate not to have a resolution on cross-cutting issues for two years in a row. On the other hand, we have spent quite a long time for the discussion of the support account. We should rectify the imbalance of time allocation for these two agenda items. For example, it might be a good idea for this committee to consider seriously the possibility of discussing these two difficult items in turns every two years.

وأخيرا سيادة الرئيس , هذه هي الدورة الأخيرة لي في اللجنة الخامسة ولقد استمتعت بالعمل معكم استمتعا كبيرا وبالعامل مع الوفود الأخرى خلال السنوات الثلاث الماضية. فقد تعلمت الكثير من كل منكم عن استراتيجيات التفاوض وكيفية اتخاذ القرارات ولكن الشيء الذي استفدت منه وعلى قدر عظيم هو ما تعلمته من كل منكم, فقد أعجبت بقراءاتكم للتقارير الفائقة الأعداد فتكونون المواقف وتقدمونها بدبلوماسية فائقة مع أخذ مواقف الآخرين وآراءهم في الإعتبار وبكل احترام, باذلين جهدا للتوصل إلى اتفاق جماعي. وروح التعاون هذه هي أعظم ما يميز هذه اللجنة وأنا على يقين أن هذه الروح ستظل من أسس ودعائم اللجنة الخامسة.

وآمل أن أكون قد أسهمت بدوري في أعمال اللجنة التي تعمل من أجل صالح المجتمع الدولي وتوفير السلام للعالم أجمع

ومع نهاية دورة عملي هنا دعوني أتمنى لكم جميعا الحب والوحدة والسلام

أشكركم شكرا جزيلا يا سيادة الرئيس

(Finally, Mr. Chairman, on a personal note, this is my last session here in the committee. I have very much enjoyed working with you and other delegates over past three years. I have learned a lot from everyone about how to negotiate and how to make decisions. More than anything, however, I was very much impressed by all of you. You read the innumerable documents you receive, you formulate positions, you promote them while at the same time considering the views of others and respecting them, then try to accommodate them and reach a consensus. This spirit, of consensus and cooperation, is what I consider to be this committee's greatest asset, and I have every expectation it will be maintained. I hope and believe that during my time here we have contributed in at least some small measure to the welfare of the entire international community and to world peace. In departing, I wish you all love, unity and peace.)

أشكركم شكرا جزيلا يا سيادة الرئيس

Merci Beaucoup.

Muchas Gracias.

Большое спасибо! (Bal`shoe spasiba)

谢谢您” (シェーシェ・ニン)

議長、どうもありがとうございました。

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.