

Financial situation of the United Nations

Statement by Yukio Takasu, Under-Secretary-General for Management

Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its 67th session

11 October 2012

Regular budget

As **Chart 3** shows, assessments were slightly lower and payments received were higher in 2012 than in 2011 by \$112 million. Unpaid assessed contributions amounted to \$855 million on 5 October 2012. This is lower by \$12 million than the \$867 million outstanding on 5 October 2011, last year's cut-off date for the presentation.

By 5 October 2012, 129 Member States had paid their regular budget assessments in full, two lower than the level of 5 October 2011 (131 as seen in **Chart 4**). At 31 December 2011 the corresponding figure was 143.

We are grateful to those 129 Member States (see **Chart 5**) that have paid their regular budget contributions in full by now. We urge the remaining 63 Member States that have not yet done so to pay their assessed contributions in full as soon as possible.

The breakdown of the \$855 million that remained outstanding at 5 October 2012 is shown in **Chart 6**. As you can see, this amount is highly concentrated with few Member States. Clearly, the final financial picture for 2012 will largely depend on the action taken by these Member States in the coming months.

Cash resources for the regular budget comprise the General Fund, to which assessed contributions are paid, the Working Capital Fund at the level of \$150 million set by the General Assembly, and the Special Account. As shown in **Chart 7**, cash resources available at the end of 2011 and at 5 October 2012 were \$94 million and \$149 million respectively, excluding the Working Capital Fund and the Special Account. The month-by-month regular budget cash position in 2011-2012 is shown in **Chart 8**. Regular budget cash position is expected to be tight at the end of 2012, as disbursements for the last quarter of the year are projected to amount to around \$776 million. The final situation will clearly depend on the action taken by the Member States referred to earlier in **Chart 6**.

Peacekeeping operations

The changing demand for peacekeeping activities makes it hard to predict financial outcomes. In addition, peacekeeping has a different financial period, running from 1 July to 30 June rather than calendar year; assessments are issued separately for each operation; and, since assessment letters can only be issued through the mandate period approved by the Security Council for each mission, they are issued for different periods throughout the year. All of these factors complicate a comparison between peacekeeping operations and regular budget.

The total amount outstanding for peacekeeping operations at 5 October 2012 is \$1.85 billion (see **Chart 9**), reflecting a decrease of \$775 million from the amount at the end of 2011. The current level of unpaid assessments is, in part, related to a lower level

of peacekeeping assessments for July 2012/June 2013 fiscal year, pending approval of a new scale of assessments for 2013.

Due to the unpredictable amount and timing of peacekeeping assessments throughout the year, it can be more difficult for Member States to keep fully current with assessments. Let me therefore pay special gratitude to the 32 Member States, listed in

possible. I would like to reassure you that we moni

Conclusions

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, let me pay particular tribute to the 31 Member States that had paid in full entire assessments that were due and payable as of 11 October 2012 (see **Chart 24**