

16 December 2010

129 – Programme budget biennium 2010-2011 PB1s
c. Durban Declaration A/C.5/65/12, A/65/627

Mr. Isi Yanouka, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Israel to the UN

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time I am taking the floor in this Committee, please allow me to congratulate you for your able conduct of the Committee's proceedings thus far.

Israel wishes to share our major concerns regarding the Programme Budget Implications of draft resolution A/C.3/65/L.60/Rev.1.

While my delegation maintains significant objections to the proposed follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, we recognize that the Fifth Committee is not the place to express them.

Israel is deeply concerned that the aforementioned resolution was adopted in violation of Rule 153 of the rules and procedures of the General Assembly. On various occasions Member States have stressed that the role of the Fifth Committee in budgetary and administrative matters should be respected.

Unfortunately, today we have been asked to rubber stamp in retrospect an invalid action of the Third Committee. Given the problematic manner in which this resolution was passed, I call on my distinguished colleagues to return it to the Third Committee.

I would also point out that in the Programme Budget Implications of this resolution, the Secretariat has asked the General Assembly to approve the proposals of the Secretary General for an additional \$206,400. They have proposed an additional \$115,700 for Section 2 and \$90,700 for Section 27.

Let me remind the distinguished delegates that these two Sections have already been appropriated a budget of roughly \$863 million for the biennium 2010-2011. In other words, the requested amount makes up 0.017% of the appropriated budget of Section 2 and 0.048% of the appropriated budget of Section 27.

Is it truly impossible to absorb this miniscule amount into the regular budget for these sections?

Mr. Chairman,

In addressing this resolution, I would ask everyone here today to treat this Committee with the respect and professionalism that it deserves.

Thank you.