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**Statement
of**

**H.E. Dr. Widhya Chem
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Kingdom of Cambodia
to the United Nations**

**Agenda Item 122: Scale of Assessments for the apportionment of
the expenses of the United Nations**

Fifth Committee

61st Session of the United Nations General Assembly

**New York
Monday, October 9, 2006**

Mr. Chairman,

1. As this is the first time I am taking the floor in a formal session, I would like to join other Delegations in congratulating you and other members of your bureau on your recent elections to lead this Committee. The Cambodian Delegation is confident that under your able leadership and guidance, the Committee will be able to carry out its work with great effectiveness.
2. My Delegation would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, Mr. Bernardo Greiver, for introducing the report of the Committee (A/61/11) and the Mr. Warren Sach, Assistant Secretary General, Controller, for his introduction of the report of the Secretary General on multi-year payment plans (A/61/68.)
3. My Delegation wishes to associate itself with the statements made by the distinguished Representative of South Africa, on behalf of the Group of G-77 and China, on agenda item 122 entitled “Scale of Assessments for the Apportionment of the Expenses of the United Nations (Report of the Committee on Contributions)”.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Referring to above mentioned Report, the Cambodian Delegation strongly believes that Methodology of new Scale of assessments for the period 2007-2009 should continue to be based on the following elements and criteria:
 - Use of Gross National Income (GNI) data;
 - Average statistical base periods of six (6) and three (3) years;
 - Conversion rated based on Market Exchange Rates (MERs), except where that would cause excessive fluctuation and distortions in the income of some Member States, when Price-Adjusted Rates of Exchange (PAREs) or other appropriate conversion rates should be employed, taking due account of General Assembly resolution 46/221 B of 20 December 1991;
 - A minimum assessment rate, or Floor, of 0.001 per cent;
 - A maximum assessment rate, or Ceiling, for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of 0.010 per cent.
5. Turning to the Multi-year payment plan, we support the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Contributions with reference to exemption of several member states in arrears from the application of the provisions of Article 19 of UN Charter due to conditions beyond these

nations' control and for these countries be allowed to vote until the end of the 61st Session of the General Assembly.

6. My Delegation would like to extend our sympathetic understanding to those Member States who are in difficulty and temporarily unable to meet their financial obligations. We share the point of view that, to ensure proper assessment, any measures sought to encourage the payment of arrears should take into consideration the situations of related countries. Also, the Multi-year payment plan should remain a voluntary mechanism to help Member States to pay their arrears and should not be linked with conditions.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman