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## Fifth Committee

### Summary record of the 3rd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 4 October 2011, at 10 a.m.

*Chair:* Mr. Tommo Monthe . . . . . (Cameroon)  
*Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative  
and Budgetary Questions:* Mr. Kelapile

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Agenda item 138: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (*continued*)

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*The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.*

**Agenda item 138: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations**  
(*continued*) (A/66/11 and A/66/69)

1. **Ms. Morgan** (Mexico), recalling that, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly decisions, the Organization's expenses should be apportioned among Member States on the basis of capacity to pay, said that the current methodology for determining the scale of assessments still did not adequately reflect that principle. Although her delegation had decided to join the consensus when the Committee had considered the issue on recent occasions, it believed that the necessary in-depth review of the scale methodology had not yet been carried out. Mexico was committed to fulfilling its financial obligations to the United Nations. However, it continued to perceive a great reluctance within the Organization to recognize important changes in international economic realities. Without wanting to penalize economic success or require any Member State to make efforts disproportionate to its financial situation, her delegation believed that commitment to the Organization should be reflected in the willingness of every Member State to make appropriate efforts in accordance with its capacity.

2. The Committee on Contributions should provide the Fifth Committee with the elements that it needed to work on a revised scale that would adequately reflect the capacity to pay of each Member State. As the General Assembly had recognized in resolution 64/248, the current methodology could be enhanced. All elements that adjusted the scale, and could distort the calculation of capacity to pay, should therefore be subject to review and scrutiny, without preconceived ideas. While Mexico did not call into question, per se, the existing elements of the methodology, it was well aware as a middle-income country that averages often hid reality. The application of those elements should not represent an excessively heavy burden for countries that had growth above world averages but still faced major challenges in the areas of development and poverty reduction. The methodology should also capture changes in the situation and capacity of each country in a dynamic manner that reflected current realities as closely as possible. It was the responsibility of the Committee on Contributions to make proposals

that included the most current, comprehensive and comparable information available.

3. Delegations should therefore embark on an open and frank process of dialogue in order to review all elements of the methodology of the scale of assessments, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/248. The most appropriate way forward might be to submit a proposal for the consideration of Member States regarding the format and schedule for such a review, beginning in January 2012. Her delegation, convinced that the Committee had the sufficient technical capacity and sense of responsibility to make progress towards the establishment of a technically sound, politically acceptable and financially viable methodology, called on all Member States to find the political will necessary to reach that goal.

4. **Mr. Greiver** (Chairman of the Committee on Contributions) reiterated that the next report of the Committee on Contributions would contain responses to all the points raised by delegations at the current session of the General Assembly.

*The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.*