



21 June 2013

*Remarks after approval of the 2014-2015 PWB and draft resolution on
budget level*

Heads of Delegation,
Ministers,
Permanent Representatives,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Conference has not ended yet but this is a very important moment and a very important step ahead. Looking back to what we did this week, I believe that we can already say that our wish for a successful and constructive Conference has been fulfilled. I want to thank you all for making this happen. Let me also acknowledge the support that you have provided for the Programme on Work and Budget and the budget level that you have just agreed on. I believe that building consensus takes some time, but it is the best way to move ahead quickly. And I believe that we achieved this.

The budget level is set at a slightly higher level than in the current biennium, more or less, two percent higher. It does not completely offset the projected cost increases, but nevertheless I know that this was the possible budget. That's what consensus is about.



The consensus showed the willingness to overcome our differences. It showed trust. And it showed commitment to work together towards the hunger-free and sustainable future we all want.

So I thank and applaud all of you for your efforts to approve our Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium. In doing so you showed a clear sign of commitment to this Organization and its goals, to your Organization and to your goals.