



Remarks

by

Mr. Hassan Abbas

Counsellor

**Explanation of vote upon the adoption of
UNIFIL 's budget Resolution at the Fifth
Committee**

New York, June 24, 2015

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Mr. Chair,

I'm taking the floor today in explanation of My Delegation's vote on draft Resolution A/C.5/69/L.44 on "Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

At the outset, I would like to express our Delegation's appreciation for the manner with which you and the distinguished members of your bureau have driven this Committee throughout the 69th Session. Your leadership and wisdom have been instrumental for the success of our deliberations.

I also take this opportunity to salute all UN peacekeepers and to pay tribute to their sacrifices in the line of duty and in pursuit of peace and stability in our region and around the world. And I extend our sincere gratitude to the Troop Contributing Countries for their continued and tireless commitment to the success of UNIFIL's mission and mandate.

In this regard, I would like to thank all the delegations who have voted in favor of the draft resolution as presented by South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. Our Delegation has also voted in favor of the draft resolution.

Our vote reflects the continued and unwavering support of the Lebanese Government and people to UNIFIL's purpose and positive contribution to peace and stability in our region since the establishment of the Force in 1978. We continue to fully support UNIFIL in fulfilling its current mandate towards the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701, in its entirety.

We have also voted in favor of the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 4, 5, and 13 of the resolution. Once again, this Committee finds itself compelled to adopt the aforementioned paragraphs due to Israel's persistent non-compliance with previous years' resolutions (22 in total).

We continue to support the Secretary General's efforts in taking the necessary measures to ensure Israel's full implementation of this resolution, through the payment to UNIFIL the amount of 1,117,005 US dollars, in compensation for costs incurred by the Force as a result of the shelling and destruction of its headquarters in Qana on 18 April 1996.