

Malaysia Voices Concern Over Unpaid Dues To UN General Assembly Budget
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 23 (Bernama) -- Malaysia has expressed concern over the Member States' unpaid assessment to the United Nations General Assembly's regular budget amounting to USD\$1.05 billion (RM4.4 billion).

Malaysia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN), Datuk Ramlan Ibrahim said the country was also concerned with the USD\$1.46 billion (RM6 billion) in outstanding contributions to the Peacekeeping Budget.

The regular budget covers the cost of UN programmes in areas such as political affairs, international justice and law, international cooperation for development, public information, human rights and humanitarian affairs.

Ramlan said this in his speech at the Fifth Committee 70th Session of the UN General Assembly on Agenda Item 136: Improving the Financial Situation of the UN, in New York yesterday (Oct 22).

His speech text was faxed to Bernama here today.

Ramlan pointed out contributions to the regular budget, peacekeeping budget, tribunals and capital master plan, calling for the Member States' abiding commitment.

"We wish to stress that these funds must be given due attention as without our financial support, the UN would not be able to carry out its mandate effectively, as prescribed by the Member States," he said.

Nevertheless, Malaysia is pleased the Secretary-General's report which stated the financial situation of the UN remains sound this year (2015), with the report indicating the 128 Member States contributed USD\$2.77 billion (RM11.7 billion) to the regular budget, as of Oct 2, 2015.

He said the Malaysian delegation acknowledged that financing peacekeeping operations signified the Member States' serious commitments to international peace and security.

The UN is undertaking 17 peacekeeping missions with about 100,000 peacekeepers currently deployed on an approved budget of USD\$7.83 billion (RM33.1 billion).

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