

PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

DR. FATIMA AKILU DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

AT THE

SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ON

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION
(AGENDA: ITEM 82)

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation took note of the Committee's debates at its 264th meeting as well as the Working Group of the Whole, and observe the inescapable linkage of the complex problems and continued fragility existing in the world today necessitating the need for precise measure that will limit the effects of and ensure sanctions imposed on recalcitrant States do not spill-over to innocent member States. Nigeria therefore continues to advocate for the prudent use of sanctions in a targeted manner as a last resort after the exhaustion of all means of peaceful settlement.

3. In this context, we will continue to join other member states to support the establishment of a mechanism for evaluating the impact of such sanctions on third States and to assist affected States in overcoming the difficulties arising from such actions; notably, in the areas of humanitarian needs of civilians. We might consider it a useful exercise, if the international law commission give due consideration on the legal consequences of sanctions affecting such third States.

Mr. Chairman,

4. My delegation subscribes to the principle of accountability but in so doing, the procedure and process prescribed for such measures are equally as important and could greatly facilitate the effective implementation of the sanctions regime and enhance the role of the UN in effectively maintaining international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

5. On the settlement of disputes through peaceful means, Nigeria reemphasized the main objective and allegiance to which all UN members pledged as contained in the UN Charter, Article 1, "to bring about peace by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or

situations which might lead to the breach of peace". In this context, Nigeria adheres to the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice to which we reaffirm our commitment to the settlement of any disputes with our neighbors.

- 6. The legal framework of the ICJ in the settlement of disputes through peaceful means is no longer in doubt. We urge Member States to make the most effective use of existing procedures and methods for the prevention of disputes and their peaceful settlement, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. In the same line, we acknowledge the important role played by the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International disputes, and in commemoration of its thirtieth anniversary. We reiterate our total support and commitment for the principles for which it stands.
- 7. We welcome the progress and the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to clear the backlog in the preparation of the Repertoire of Practice of United Nations organs and the Repertoire of Practice of the Security Council. We recognized that both Repertoire practices contribute to the institutional foundation of the Organization and are valuable research tools for the international community, with particular relevance to the diplomatic community. We therefore encourage UN Member States to make additional contributions to the two trust funds established to facilitate the preparation of the publications.

Mr. Chairman,

8. On the issue of the working methods of the Special Committee and identification of new subjects, my delegation supports a modification of the existing terms of reference on Fund Administration, to include ways to enhance efficiency in the work of the Committee, and to ensure transparent and accountable fund administration that will enhance the operational activities and coordination of the working methods of the Committee. We believed that an efficient, transparent, and accountable

fund administration in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the UN will promote and support consolidated programs and activities, thereby reducing the Special Committee implementation challenges.

9. We therefore call for a modification that is more practical, operational, and requires timely response of fund approval that supports information gathering and sharing, publications of relevant materials, security and peace, political, and legal capacity-building projects. Most importantly, the information sharing must include dissemination of periodic updates on donors' contributions, funding recommendations and allocations in accordance to the capacity of the Special Committee. We reiterate our continued support for the work of the Special Committee and we encourage member states to contribute towards strengthening the working methods of the Committee.

10. I thank You.