

(Check against delivery)  
11 October 2012

**SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
67<sup>th</sup> SESSION**

**Briefing by the Chief of the Security Council Practices and Charter  
Research Branch/Security Council Affairs Division/DPA, on the  
*Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council***

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

1. I am grateful for this opportunity to update members of the Sixth Committee on the status of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and related activities. Since Member States have the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* before them (A/67/189), I shall be brief today.
2. Distinguished delegates, in 2012 the Practices and Charter Research Branch of the Security Council Affairs Division continued to make good progress in the updating of the *Repertoire*. In line with the “two-track” approach, most recently endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 66/101, the Branch simultaneously worked on the preparation of several Supplements to the *Repertoire* in order to expedite its coverage of the contemporary practice and procedure of the Security Council. Earlier this year the Branch completed the 16<sup>th</sup> Supplement covering 2008 and 2009. Regarding the 17<sup>th</sup> Supplement to the *Repertoire*, covering the period from 2010 to 2011, we expect the entire volume to be available in its advance version in mid-2013.

3. Actual drafting of the 18th Supplement covering the two-year period from 2012 to 2013 will commence in early 2013. Groundwork for this Supplement has been systematically laid down in the last two years through recording the most contemporary practice of the Security Council in an internal database.
4. Progress in the preparation of the *Repertoire* is mostly due to efficiency-enhancing initiatives, such as the specialized training of staff, the review of editorial processes, increased use of internal databases and the continuous up-dating of *Repertoire* drafting guidelines. However, future progress will very much depend on the availability of resources which I will address later.
5. A few words about the status of the drafted Supplements of the *Repertoire*, covering the period from 1993 to 2009. While the English-language version of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Supplements covering the period 1993 to 1999 was published in 2011, the remaining languages are expected to be published shortly. As far as the 14<sup>th</sup> Supplement, covering the period 2000 to 2003, is concerned, the entire volume has been completed and the English-language version is to be published soon with the other languages to follow this year. Work on editing and on typesetting still has to commence for the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Supplements which cover the period from 2004 to 2009. We continue to work with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) to shorten the time lag between the completion of a Supplement and its eventual publication in all six official languages.

6. Mr. Chairman, during the last year, the Branch responded to requests for information from Member States, United Nations staff, students, academic scholars and researchers.
7. I invite you to explore frequently the *Repertoire* section of the Security Council website where we regularly post new studies. I am happy to announce that the *Repertoire* section is now available in all official languages and fully integrated into the recently overhauled Security Council website. In addition to its search capabilities and user-friendly interface, which allow for quick access to the wealth of information on the practices of the Security Council contained in the *Repertoire*, the *Repertoire* section of the Council website also includes a comprehensive historical list and short descriptions of all agenda items discussed as well as information on all subsidiary organs established by the Council since 1946. The descriptions are regularly up-dated as new *Repertoire* chapters and studies are posted in advance version. The website also contains tables and graphs providing an overview of historical trends relating to the work of the Security Council.
8. Aside from its work on the *Repertoire*, the Branch, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 66/101 contributed to addressing the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory* by submitting all outstanding studies on various Charter Articles for the period 1985 to 1999.
9. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, the progress made in the preparation and publication of the *Repertoire* as well as the updating of the *Repertoire* section of the Council website would not have been possible without contributions received to the Trust Fund for the Updating of the *Repertoire*. In this context, we are truly

grateful for the contributions made to the Trust Fund in 2012 by China, Ireland, Mexico and Turkey.

10. Nonetheless, the Branch faces a heavy workload in sustaining a regular publication schedule for the *Repertoire* to prevent new backlogs from forming, in updating the *Repertoire* section of the Council website in all languages and in continuing to improve the quality and accessibility of information about the Security Council. Besides regular budget resources, we are also dependent on voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established by the General Assembly in resolution 54/106. We are grateful to those Member States who have generously contributed to the Trust Fund over the years, and we would encourage all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund or to consider sponsorship of an Associate Expert for the Branch, as was done in the past.

11. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, your feedback on our work is very much appreciated. The Branch continues to stand ready to assist you with information and guidance on all procedural and constitutional aspects of the current as well as past practice of the Security Council.

12. Thank you.