



REPUBLIC OF CUBA
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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**STATEMENT BY THE CUBAN DELEGATION ON ITEM 85 ENTITLED
"REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE
ORGANIZATION".**

New York, 17 October 2019

Mr. Chairman,

Cuba supports the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the NAM and on item 84 entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

Our delegation appreciates the Secretary-General's reports A/74/152 "Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions" and A/74/194 "Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council".

We support the work of the Special Committee on the Charter and its agenda and also appreciate the presentation of its report contained in document A/74/33. Together with the Chair of the Committee and member States, we will continue to cooperate in order to promote its work, in exercise of the mandate granted by Resolution 3349 (XXIX) of the General Assembly, which gave rise to this Committee.

The importance of this mandate is reaffirmed under the current international circumstances, when attempts are made, by some countries, to reinterpret the principles of the Charter of the United Nations in order to promote political agendas of interventionism and interference in the internal affairs of States, to the detriment of the integrity and sovereignty, particularly, of developing countries.

Such is the case of the actions of the United States, which has even arbitrarily violated the prohibition against the threat of the use of force, as was

demonstrated last January when senior officials of that Government arrogantly and brazenly uttered that in relation to Venezuela "all options were on the table, including the military option".

Likewise, as part of this interfering policy that overtly contravenes the Charter of this Organization, the United States imposes an economic, financial and commercial blockade against the people of Cuba, simply because of the country's decision to freely exercise their right to self-determination and give themselves the economic, political and social system of their choice. As if that were not enough, they also feel entitled to hamper the economic relations between Cuba and third countries.

Mr. Chairman,

The respect for and the promotion of the norms of the Charter of the United Nations are of vital importance. The leading role of the General Assembly as the principal regulatory, deliberative, policymaking, and representative organ of the United Nations must be preserved and strengthened.

The Special Committee is the appropriate framework for negotiating any amendments to the Charter of the United Nations, including those arising from the current reform process of the Organization. It is the adequate space to propose the recommendations which may allow for the implementation of all the provisions contained in the Charter and to ensure that all Member States and organs of the United Nations act in conformity with its principles and purposes and with International Law.

In this regard, the Special Committee on the Charter should promote and be open to the full discussion on

any proposal for resolution, decision or course of action by the United Nations organs, when such proposals have implications for the compliance with and implementation of the Charter.

Mr. Chairman,

Despite attempts to curb the work of the Committee, concrete results have been noticed, such as the agreement to hold an intermediate session to discuss the proposal on the peaceful settlement of disputes, put forward by the NAM, which took place last February and received numerous contributions from Member States.

We thank the Secretariat for the support given in the creation of the necessary conditions to continue to implement the agreements reached at previous sessions of the Committee, providing spaces for the substantive discussion of the proposals.

We also take note of the progress made by the Secretariat since the last report in the update of the

Repertory of Practice of the United Nations organs and the Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, while we call for the elimination of the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the repertory, and we request the Secretary-General to address this issue effectively and on a priority basis. We also express our satisfaction with the availability of repertory studies on the Internet and the regular update of the Repertory website and of the repertoire by the Codification Division.

Mr. Chairman,

Although some delegations would like to abolish or reduce the working sessions of the Committee, the number of initiatives put forward this year demonstrates their importance and necessity. Those who do not want the Committee's durability argue that it does not yield concrete results, ignoring the fact that it is they themselves who systematically refuse to discuss substantive proposals and hinder the adoption of any decision, by merely expressing

disagreement, without substantiating or discussing their opinions.

The Committee's current situation has improved in comparison with previous years, but the lack of political will on the part of some States lingers on, which hinders further progress.

Cuba opposes any attempt to biennialize or reduce the work of the Committee and its agenda. We encourage delegations to submit substantive proposals and to participate constructively in the debates.

In this regard, we endorse the Committee's current agenda and thank the delegations of Belarus, Russia and Ghana, as well as NAM, for their contributions to the Committee's work through concrete proposals. We also urge the delegation of Mexico to present in writing the proposal made orally at the 72nd session. In closing, we would like to thank the Committee on the Charter and its Chairman for the serious and

constructive manner in which they have conducted
the work of the Committee.

Thank you