

Statement by Counsellor Kwangheon Doh

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

**Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the
Strengthening of the Role of the Organization**

4 November 2021

Thank you, Madame Chair,

Allow me at the outset to extend my appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report contained in document A/76/33.

My delegation also notes with appreciation the report of Secretary-General, “Our Common Agenda.” In this report, Secretary-General outlines the UN’s pivotal roles in regaining trust in institutions, continuing to respond to the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, addressing root causes and drivers of conflict, and supporting compliance with international law.

I take this opportunity to commend the Secretariat for its ongoing efforts regarding the Repertory and the Repertoire, even during these times of unprecedented difficulties caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Madame Chair,

Many delegations, including mine, have been pointing out that various challenges have yet to be overcome to increase the efficiency of the Special Committee. Many things have been done to boost the efficiency of the Special Committee. However, we still need to pursue additional solutions to ensure that the Special Committee's work is both more productive and more efficient. In this context, I would like to highlight the following three points.

First, my delegation notes with concern that many duplicative proposals and working papers of this Charter Committee could lead to a lack of interest and participation from most of the Member States. Considering the UN's limited resources at this pivotal juncture, we need to seriously ponder rationalizing the Charter Committee's work, including the possibility of retiring stagnant proposals and working papers as well as holding meetings in alternate years.

Second, my delegation would like to reiterate the importance of consistency between the activities of the Special Committee and other principal organs of the UN. The work of the Special Committee should be reviewed to ensure that overlaps in the duplication of our efforts in the entire UN system are minimized to the highest extent practicable.

Third, my delegation would like to urge all Member States not to use the Special

Committee as a forum for political propaganda. The politicization of this Committee will hinder us from making our discussion more practical and productive and simultaneously lead to the waste of our precious time and limited resources forever. As such, we must maximize the utility of the limited resources we have solely for the Special Committee's purposes as mandated by the General Assembly resolution 3499 of 15 December 1975.

Madame Chair,

The next year 2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the Manila Declaration of the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 7/10 of 15 November 1982.

With this in mind, my delegation believes that the zero draft resolution circulated on 29 October 2021 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Manila Declaration is quite timely for all Member States and greatly hopes that we can adopt this draft resolution successfully by consensus.

I thank you, Madame Chair. /END/