

3 November 2022

**SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
77th SESSION**

**Briefing by the Senior Political Affairs Officer of the Security Council
Practices and Charter Research Branch/Security Council Affairs
Division/Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, on the
*Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council***

Esteemed Chair, distinguished delegates,

1. I am most grateful for this opportunity to provide the delegates of the Sixth Committee with an update on the status of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and related activities further to the Report of the Secretary-General (A/77/303) of 18 August 2022. I will focus my remarks on the progress made in the preparation and publication of the *Repertoire*, the latest research tools on the practice of the Council, and the status of the Trust Fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*.
2. Since our last briefing to the Committee on 10 November 2021, the Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch has continued to make very significant progress in the preparation of the *Repertoire*. In line with our contemporary approach to drafting of the *Repertoire*, this year our work focused on the simultaneous completion of the 24th Supplement and the preparation of the 25th Supplement, respectively covering the

years 2021 and 2022.

3. I am happy to report that the advance version of the 24th Supplement was completed and posted on the website of the Council, as scheduled, in October 2022. The Branch is also well advanced in the research and drafting of the 25th Supplement, which covers this year.
4. Regarding publication, the final versions of the Supplements covering the period from 1989 to 2019 are available in hard copy in English and online in all six official languages. The 23rd Supplement, covering the year 2020, was published in English in July 2022, two months ahead of the originally envisaged 22-month schedule. Copies have been dispatched to all permanent missions and are also available here today. The online edition of the 23rd Supplement in the other five languages is expected in the first quarter of 2023.
5. Complementing the Branch's work on the *Repertoire* and in line with the Data Strategy of the Secretary-General for Action by Everyone, Everywhere, we continued to expand our use of technology to present the practice of the Council in a visually engaging and accessible manner on the website. Last month, we published a new dataset on the evolving nature of Arria-formula meetings in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the format. The Field Missions Dashboard, which compiles and systematizes the mandates of peacekeeping operations and special political missions, has also been improved with a more user-friendly presentation, while the data sets on the protection of civilians, children and armed conflict, and women and peace and security have been expanded to

cover Council decisions dating back to the inception of those items in 1999 and 2000.

6. The latest edition of the annual *Highlights of Security Council Practice*, traditionally launched at the beginning of the year, features new analysis of Arria-formula meetings and informal interactive dialogues and the emerging practice of joint thematic priorities and actions of Council members on issues such as women and peace and security. Furthermore, the UN Security Council in Review, the new monthly newsletter launched in May 2021, has become a key resource for Council members and the membership at large with real-time analysis of procedural and substantive trends in the Council. Given the value of these tools, the Secretariat strengthened promotion activities through social media to increase awareness about them.

7. **Esteemed Chair, distinguished delegates**, the progress made in the preparation of the *Repertoire*, the development of research tools and the maintenance of the website would not have been possible without the strong support of Member States through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund. These contributions have enabled the Branch to retain the services of temporary staff and UN volunteers to assist in the research and drafting of the publication, as well as editorial and IT expertise to improve efficiency in its preparation. We would like to express our gratitude to China, Ireland, Portugal, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates for their generous contributions to the Trust Fund since we last briefed the Committee in November 2021. Furthermore, with the support of and together with the Permanent Mission of Japan, the Branch has launched a

project to develop a digital interactive version of the *Working Methods of the Security Council Handbook*, initially developed by Japan in 2006. In addition, the work of associate experts sponsored by Japan and Sweden has been key to our achievements over the past year.

8. The Trust Fund has been absolutely critical for the Branch's success in eliminating the ten-year backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire* and moving towards an annual contemporary publication. Our current schedule provides for the posting of all advance versions of the *Repertoire* no later than October of the year following the reporting period and a 22-month period for its publication in English. With sufficient resources, the Branch could continue working with our partners in the Department on further reducing this timeline.
9. **Esteemed Chair, distinguished delegates**, given our collective achievements over the past several years, I must note my concern and bring to your attention that the current level of funding in the Trust Fund will not allow the Branch to sustain this progress in 2023. It is only through predictable and sustained budgetary support that the Branch can fully secure the contemporary approach to the *Repertoire* and meet the demands of Member States for more in-depth and up-to-date analysis and data on the latest developments in the Council.
10. With this goal in mind, the Branch will be launching a new appeal for the Trust Fund to help us maintain course and continue improving on the timeliness, quality and breadth of the *Repertoire* and associated products. We continue to count on your support to deliver on the mandate set out by

the General Assembly in 1952.

11. Before closing, I would like to remind delegates that the Security Council Practices and Research Branch will be hosting an information session on the *Repertoire* and the various research tools available on the website tomorrow in conference room 7. With the generous participation of some delegations with experience with these tools, the session will allow other Member States to further familiarize themselves with the many resources available and provide us with their feedback on our work. We look forward to an engaging discussion. Thank you.