

STATEMENT
BY H.E. AMB. ZÉPHYRIN MANIRATANGA (REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI)
CHAIR OF THE 2023 SESSION OF
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF
THE ORGANIZATION
BEFORE THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AGENDA ITEM 82

20 October 2023

Chair,

I have the honour to introduce the report of the 2023 session of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, contained in Supplement No. 33 (A/78/33).

The Special Committee met in New York from 21 February to 1 March 2023 and continued its deliberations on the questions mandated by General Assembly resolution 77/109.

At the end of this year's session, the Special Committee was only able to adopt one chapter of its 2023 report containing 13 paragraphs and which is procedural in nature. Paragraphs 10 to 12 list all items and proposals that were under consideration by the Special Committee. Nonetheless, permit me to recall the work undertaken by the Special Committee during its 2023 session.

Under the item "Maintenance of international peace and security", the Special Committee considered the issue of the introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations and was briefed by the Secretariat on the issue.

The Special Committee also continued its consideration on - the revised proposal submitted by Libya with a view to strengthening the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security; - the further revised working paper submitted by Belarus and the Russian Federation on an advisory opinion to be requested from the International Court of Justice as to the legal consequences of the resort to the use of force by States without prior authorization by the Security Council, except in the exercise of the right to self-defence; - the revised working paper submitted by Cuba on the strengthening of the role of the Organization and enhancing its effectiveness: adoption of recommendations; and - the further revised working paper submitted by Ghana on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Under the item “Peaceful settlement of disputes”, the Special Committee undertook an annual thematic debate on the subtopic “Exchange of information on State practices regarding the resort to regional agencies or arrangements”. It also considered the proposal by the Russian Federation to recommend that the Secretariat be requested to establish a website on the peaceful settlement of disputes and update the *Handbook on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States*.

In addition, the Special Committee considered the preparation of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and was briefed by the Secretariat on the status of the two publications.

The Special Committee also considered its working methods and continued its discussion on three written proposals for new subjects submitted in previous sessions by Mexico, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic, respectively, as well as the proposal orally made by Cuba in 2019 concerning the role of the General Assembly.

The delegation of the Russian Federation also indicated its intention to prepare a list of topics for consideration at the next session of the Special Committee.

Finally, Chair,

I would like to draw the attention of all delegates to the fact that, following the established practice, recommendations were made during the 2023 session on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*. Although those recommendations were likewise not adopted by the Special Committee, it is my understanding that the recommendations enjoyed general agreement. Therefore, on behalf of the Bureau of the 2023 session of the Special Committee, I now recommend that the Sixth Committee retain its previous recommendations to the General Assembly last year as contained in operative paragraphs 11 to 17 of the General Assembly resolution 77/109.

The Special Committee did not make any recommendation on the subtopic of next year's annual thematic debate, under the agenda item on the peaceful settlement of disputes, because paragraph 5(b) of the General Assembly resolution 77/109 already prescribed a list of subtopics for the thematic debates in the next sessions of the Special Committee.

It is my sincere hope that the Special Committee will be in a position to adopt its regular report at next year's session.

Chair,

Before concluding, I would like to convey my appreciation to the delegations for their cooperation, as well as to the members of the Bureau, and the Secretariat, for their invaluable assistance and advice.

Thank you.
