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البعثة الدائمة لدولة إريتريا لدى  
الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE STATE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

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**Statement Delivered by the Delegation of Eritrea  
Sixth Committee, UNGA78**

**Agenda item 82: Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations  
and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization  
1 November 2023**

**Chair,**

Eritrea aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of NAM; Uganda on behalf of the African Group; and Venezuela on behalf of the Group of Friends in defense of the UN Charter.

**Chair,**

1. At a time when the world is grappling with interlocking problems, we need to rise up to the occasion to summon the requisite political goodwill in order to strengthen the pillars of multilateralism, with the United Nations at its core. Notwithstanding its ad hoc mandate, the Special Committee could function as an important platform in our collective efforts to build effective multilateral institutions that are sorely needed for strengthening the UN Charter as well as the role of the Organization.

2. The annual thematic debate in the Special Committee, “peaceful settlement of disputes” is important to maintain as it accords us with the opportunity to inculcate a culture of peace and to promote peace among states. It is imperative that the adherence to the full respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in domestic affairs is maintained. These principles, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, ought to be respected at all times by all Member States to ensure peace and security, socio-economic progress and justice.

**Chair,**

3. My delegation welcomes the useful exchange of information on State practices early this year regarding the resort to regional agencies or arrangements, under the Special Committee's annual thematic debate on the means for the settlement of disputes, in accordance with Article 2 (3) , Chapter VI of the Charter, and consistent with the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes. We underline that the peaceful settlement of disputes whether in war time or peace, remains relevant as ever.

Almost half a century ago, The Manila Declaration was adopted by consensus, and has been of paramount importance ever since, in particular for the work by the Special Committee in this regard. My delegation believes that we need to carry that spirit forward of common purpose in our current work. Yet, we note with concern that the Special Committee was not able to adopt its report by consensus and we regret to see the unconstructive attitude by some delegations through the politicization of the work of the Sixth Committee.

4. It is important that we continue to give serious consideration to the different proposals tabled by different delegations in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations relating to the maintenance of international peace and security.

**Chair,**

5. On the functions and authority of the different organs of the UN, balance between and among the different organs should be maintained, with the General Assembly remaining as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations.

6. While there is a legal basis for UN sanctions adopted by the United Nations Security Council, through Article 39 and 41 of the UN Charter, it should be employed as a last resort and should not be based on unfounded charges or without solid evidence. It is of utmost importance that decisions of the UNSC are in accordance with article 1 and 2, referring to the purpose and principles of the UN Charter. The imposition of sanctions should avoid double standards and should ensure fair and clear procedures in ending the sanctions regime. The adoption of unilateral coercive measures on the other hand is illegal and in violation of the provisions of the UN Charter, *inter alia*, the principle of sovereign equality of states under Article 2(1) of the Charter. My delegation voices its deep concern that this illicit act is increasingly becoming a common pattern, employed as a tool of aggressive foreign policy by some States. Not taking into account that Unilateral Coercive Measures have a negative impact on key rights of

humans related to life, health, and freedom from hunger, and that UCMs are condemned in several Resolutions by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, and the African Union.

**Chair,**

To conclude, Eritrea looks forward to seeing more effective and constructive work of the special committee. We also wish to express our appreciation to the UN Codification Division for its work in the update of the Repertory of Practice of the United Nations Organs and the Repertoire of the Practice of the UN Security Council. We look forward to similar efforts on all outstanding workloads.

**I Thank you.**