



REPUBLIC OF KOREA
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE
CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

2017 SESSION

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CHIEF OF THE LEGAL TEAM

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Statement by Mr. Zha Hyoung Rhee, Counsellor

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Since this is the first time the Republic of Korea takes the floor, please allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your elections and to assure you of our full support and cooperation during the deliberations of this Committee.

My delegation also notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General outlining the progress made by the Secretariat in updating the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*. The improvements made to reduce the backlog of these publications are noteworthy, including the useful introduction of enhanced tools on the *Repertoire* website such as tables, graphs and statistical data. We also commend and further encourage Secretariat's close cooperation with academia for these initiatives.

Mr. Chairman,

During the General Assembly meetings last October, a number of delegations pointed out various challenges that had yet to be overcome to increase the efficiency of the Special Committee. Duplication of efforts was a recurring

concern not only in the consideration of outstanding issues and proposals, but also in the exchange of views about the working methods of the Committee and identification of new subjects. In this regard, it was quite an achievement that this Committee was able to agree on the consideration of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter relating to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions on a biennial basis, which was made possible only in the spirit of compromise and the common will to enhance the efficiency of this Committee.

We believe that our discussion will be more productive and efficient once we identify the challenges facing the Special Committee in rendering its work more effective as well as the elements needed to galvanize the political will of Member States. We could then make concerted and focused efforts to address those issues.

My delegation would also like to reiterate the importance of consistency between the activities of the Special Committee and other principal organs of the UN. In this connection, the work of the Special Committee should be reviewed to ensure that overlaps and duplication throughout the UN system are minimized to the extent practicable.

My delegation commends constructive discussions during the intersessional informal meeting held on 2 February 2017 in accordance with GA resolution 71/146 on the proposals of the Non-Aligned Movement entitled “Pacific settlement of disputes and its impact on the maintenance of peace” and of Ghana entitled “Working paper on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the UN and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes.” We believe this informal meeting was useful for Member States to better understand the aim of the proposals and to exchange initial views on the topic. Many merits of the proposals were highlighted, and concerns about the

proposals were raised by some Member States as well. Based on this, we could further discuss the proposals, and the Republic of Korea is ready and willing to contribute to constructive discussions.

(With regard to the remarks made by the representative of the DPRK on the status of United Nations Command and other irrelevant issues, my delegation would like to emphasize that this Special Committee is a forum to discuss neither the status of the United Nations Command nor the specific situation on and around the Korean Peninsula. The absurdity of DPRK's allegations and the positions of the Republic of Korea on those allegations have been continuously made explicit at this Committee and other relevant fora. As such, my delegation does not have any intention to repeat them here.)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. /END/