

**Statement by Mr. Yagya Raj Poudyal,  
Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations, at the  
meeting of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on  
strengthening the role of the United Nations  
(New York, 18 February 2020)**

*(As delivered)*

**Madam Chair,**

I would like to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your election to lead this session of the Special Committee. Please rest assured of my delegation's full support in discharging your important responsibilities.

I align my statement with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

**Madam Chair,**

Nepal is firmly committed to the principles and the purposes of the United Nations Charter, which serves as one of the fundamental bases of our foreign policy. As a staunch believer in Multilateralism, Nepal pins enormous faith on the United Nations for its continued role in promoting international peace and security, socio-economic development and human rights over the last seventy-four years.

Nepal attaches great importance to the work of this Special Committee. We appreciate the crucial role played by the Committee since its establishment in 1975, in upholding the UN Charter as well as in creating an effective international legal system through adherence to the rule of law and justice.

At a time when there is a growing demand for greater efficiency and effective functioning of the United Nations, we view that the work of this Committee is all the more relevant. We also believe that it possesses both the mandate as well as the potentials for safeguarding the unique powers of the General Assembly.

Regarding the proposals pending for consideration in the Committee, my delegation views that the issue of duplication and overlaps in the agenda items needs to be addressed.

There is a ground for improvement for better coherence and effectiveness. And to that end, we underscore the importance of the revitalization of the Charter Committee. The Committee should consider finding means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency and utilization of resources with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation.

**Madam Chair,**

Nepal strongly believes in peaceful settlement of conflicts and disputes through negotiations and dialogues. We also believe that the States must refrain from the use of threat or force.

We also wish to highlight the crucial role of preventive diplomacy in conflict prevention and the peaceful settlement of disputes. Based on our own experience of a unique and home-grown peace process, we reaffirm that the participation of women in all stages of conflict resolution is a key to peaceful settlement of dispute. Regional organizations can also contribute substantially in the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Nepal appreciates the role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States. We also underline the importance of taking recourse to the Court for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

**Madam Chair,**

The issue of continued encroachment by the Security Council on the functions and powers of the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council has been frequently raised in various debates. We must make good-faith efforts to achieve the right balance between the functions and powers of the principal organs of the United Nations.

Needless to say, the United Nations General Assembly, as the main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ, has served as the largest multilateral forum and has significantly contributed to peaceful settlement of disputes. It is not least in this context that we support the idea of a stronger and more powerful General Assembly.

Nepal believes that the Special Committee, by mandate, is the appropriate forum for examining the legal aspect of this issue. The Committee should extensively engage in the deliberations within its mandates as well as in the topics of interest of the wider membership. My delegation strongly believes that the reform of the Organization should be carried out in accordance with the principles and procedures established by the Charter and preserve the legal framework of the Charter as a constitutional instrument.

With regard to the Sanctions imposed by the Security Council, they must be applied in conformity with the provisions of the Charter and the international law as well as in full compliance with international human rights law.

It must be assured that Sanctions are imposed only after all measures of dispute settlement have been exhausted and threat to international peace and security has emerged. Adequate measures have to be taken to reduce the impact of sanctions on the third country and civilian population. Similarly, sanctions should not hinder humanitarian assistance from reaching the civilian population.

Before I conclude, Madam Chair, I wish to express Nepal's commendations for the work of the Secretariat for the publication of Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council which has not only served as important resources and research materials to the students and academicians of the related field but also as an effective means of maintaining the institutional memory of the Organization. We also wish to appreciate the continuing efforts of the Secretariat to eliminate the backlog in their preparation.

I thank you for your attention.