

**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY GHANA DURING THE SESSION OF
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED
NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE
ORGANIZATION – 16TH TO 24TH FEBRUARY, 2021, NEW YORK**

Mr. Chairman,

I join preceding speakers to congratulate you and other delegations on your election as Chair and members of the Bureau of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the role of the Organization and to express my delegation's confidence in your successful leadership of this session.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

The 75th anniversary of the United Nations is taking place at a time of great disruption to the world order and increasing challenges to multilateralism and global cooperation. The work of this Committee, therefore, remains important for upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter and ensuring that the United Nations delivers on its promises and is fit for purpose.

Mr. Chairman,

In contribution to the agenda item on the Maintenance of Peace and Security, Ghana put before this august Committee a working paper entitled “Strengthening the Relationship and Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Organizations or Arrangements in the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes.

The objective of the paper, as the title suggests, is to develop general guidelines to enhance cooperation between the UN and Regional Bodies. While acknowledging the primary role of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter, the paper recognizes the complementary effort that regional arrangements can provide to promote collective global security.

It is Ghana’s view that such enhanced cooperation should be based on clearly defined cooperation agreements with mechanisms for periodic monitoring and evaluation. We also see an opportunity for the increased role of academia, research institutions, civil society and the youth in preventive diplomacy and peacebuilding through coordinated partnerships with Regional Organizations or Arrangements.

Mr. Chairman,

We wish to thank all delegations who have supported the proposal and made contributions for its further revision to enhance the utility of the proposed guidelines. At the same time, due note has been taken of

constructive contributions by some delegations to avoid duplicating the work of the Security Council.

Mr. Chairman,

I recall that during the last session of the Committee held in February 2020, my delegation informed this Committee of the establishment of a national working group to review the revised text taking into account the comments and inputs received from delegations in previous debates.

The onset of the Corona virus pandemic and its associated constraints have impeded many working processes including the consideration of the revised paper by the working group.

Mr. Chairman,

The very challenges of 2020 have, however, provided the momentum to carry on our work with more zeal as we recognize the growing importance of enhancing cooperation and coordination between the UN and Regional bodies in the pursuit of pacific settlements to disputes and addressing all forms of challenges to global peace and security. Ghana is committed to working closely with delegations to further consolidate inputs ahead of the next session. In this regard, my delegation wishes, once again, to call for the inclusion of the revised paper in the next session of the Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, may I convey the support and cooperation of my delegation as we look forward to another session of fruitful deliberations.

I thank you.