

Statement by Counsellor Kwangheon Doh

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

**Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the
Strengthening of the Role of the Organization**

16 February 2021

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

At the outset, my delegation would like to extend its warm congratulations to you and the other members of the Bureau on your elections and assure you of our full support and cooperation, particularly during these times of unprecedented difficulties caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Republic of Korea firmly believes that UN sanctions are important tools under the Charter for ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security, and we appreciate the Secretariat's efforts to enhance transparency in their implementation. In this regard, we await the Secretariat's briefing on general information and recent developments with interest.

Regarding the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes, my delegation notes with appreciation that the Charter Committee has undertaken annual debates on the means of dispute settlement. We look forward to this year's debate on the use of arbitration, and hope that during the debate on dispute settlement and its report, we can avoid any internal disputes.

Mr. Chair,

At the same time, my delegation notes with concern that many duplicative proposals and working papers of this Charter Committee could lead to a lack of interest and participation from the majority of Member States. Considering the UN's limited resources at this juncture, we need to seriously ponder rationalizing the Charter Committee's work.

My delegation would also like to reiterate the importance of consistency between the activities of the Charter Committee and the other principal organs of the UN.

To date, many things have been done for these purposes. However, we still need to pursue additional solutions to ensure that the Charter Committee's work is both more productive and more efficient.

In this context, my delegation is continuing its efforts by sponsoring 1 JPO to update the Repertoire. Furthermore, I am pleased to inform you that Korea University, one of most prestigious academic institutions in Korea, plans to further scale-up cooperation for possible work on the Repertory starting from March this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Secretariat for its ongoing efforts regarding the Repertory and the Repertoire; which are beneficial resources for Member States, academia, and civil society and simultaneously strengthen multi-stakeholder partnership goals.

Mr. Chair,

Next year, 2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the Manila Declaration of the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/10 of 15 November 1982.

With this in mind, my delegation believes that the proposed draft recommendation by the distinguished representative of the Republic of the Philippines to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Manila Declaration is quite timely for all Member States, and hopes that this recommendation can be adopted successfully by consensus.

Before concluding, and with regard to the remarks made by the distinguished representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, my delegation would like to emphasize that the Charter Committee is not the appropriate forum to discuss the status of the United Nations Command. The Republic of Korea's position on the UN Command has been consistently made clear on numerous occasions. As such, my delegation does not have any intention of repeating its position here today.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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