



**STATEMENT**

**TO BE DELIVERED**

**BY**

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**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE**

**“REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF  
THE ORGANIZATION”**

**22 February 2022**

**Chairperson,**

Thank you for giving me the floor.

Allow me to congratulate you and the Bureau on your election. Zimbabwe aligns itself with the statements delivered by Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and by Venezuela, on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter. I wish to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

**Chairperson,**

We are here today to reaffirm our collective commitment to the United Nations, to multilateralism and to the agenda for the peaceful settlement of disputes, justice, international cooperation, solidarity, maintenance of international peace and security and sustainable development. My delegation recalls the need for all Member States to recognize and respect the sovereign equality of all nations, big or small, as enshrined in the Charter of the UN. We, equally, have a positive role to play in promoting peace and development for the present and future generations in order to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. It is our hope that we will have candid and fruitful deliberations regarding the proposals before the Special Committee.

Zimbabwe fully supports the enhancement of the relationship and cooperation between the UN and regional organizations/arrangements in resolving disputes, peacefully. That partnership and cooperation is very critical, inevitable, and imperative if we are to succeed.

Regional organizations are closer to the areas of conflict, and, are better positioned to understand the dynamics of the conflicts, and, are affected by the spillover of the conflict as such have a better appreciation of the intervention requirements to end

the conflicts. The international community will be much more helpful by supporting the efforts deployed by the country and regional organization.

To that end, Zimbabwe supports Ghana's proposal on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the UN and regional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, which calls for more structured engagements between the two, as a fundamental guiding principle of international law embodied in Articles 2 (3) and 33 of the UN Charter. States must, as the Charter of the UN clearly provides, refrain from the threat or use of force as a way of settling disputes, place should be given to Preventative diplomacy and we should adequately and predictably fund it. Particular emphasis should also be given to the role of women in all stages of conflict resolution and in the peaceful settlement of disputes for inclusive and durable peace and security.

**Chairperson,**

My delegation supports that the Special Committee continues to analyze all means envisaged in Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations on Pacific Settlements of Disputes, which states that Parties to a dispute, which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, should seek a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means and judicial settlement. With regards to judicial settlement, States have to reaffirm commitment to abide by the judgements of the International Court of Justice as a way to maintain international peace and security and to resolve disputes peacefully. To that end, Zimbabwe supports that the peaceful settlement of disputes remains on the agenda of the Special Committee.

## **Chairperson,**

My delegation maintains its commitment to constructively engage in the work of the Special Committee and believes that Member States should play a greater role in improving its working methods. Member States should demonstrate a unity of purpose and an unwavering commitment to the vision to improve the working methods of the Special Committee. In that context, I urge us to continue to exploring, and adopting new topics that advance the work of the Special Committee.

With, regards to UN sanctions, the position of my country is that sanctions should be applied in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the UN and international law, including International Humanitarian Law, International Human Rights Law and International Refugee Law. I wish to restate that procedures used to apply sanctions on States should be transparent, fair and clear, and should respect the rights of the sanctioned States and its citizens. Also, sanctions should not be imposed indiscriminately or be used to inflict suffering on vulnerable groups in the sanctioned States as that will be immoral and counter-productive. In cases where sanctions are applied, it is important to also consider providing assistance to third States that would be affected in order to minimize the adverse impacts on the general public and third States.

My delegation remains concerned about the imposition of unilateral sanctions in violation of the Charter of the UN, of International Law and International Humanitarian Law. The unwarranted, illegal and cruel unilateral economic measures that have been imposed on my country over the past two decades and have brought untold suffering to the generality of the people should be lifted urgently and unconditionally. The targeted States should be allowed to chart their

own destiny in particular their developmental aspirations. My delegation supports the proposal by Iran regarding the need for a legal analysis on unilateral coercive measures to find innovative ways to mitigate, prevent and minimize adverse impacts on the affected State and Third States. Evidence abounds to debunk the myth that there can be targeted UCMs that would not affect the generality of the people.

**Chairperson,**

In conclusion, my delegation wishes to underline that through unity, solidarity, commitment and cooperation, the challenges affecting the international community can be addressed effectively. We equally recognize that the work of the Special Committee continues to play an important role in reinforcing adherence by Member States to the Charter of the UN and International Law. We acknowledge that more needs to be done to address the outstanding topics on the agenda of the Special Committee. Failure to address these topics in effect, impedes the Special Committee from executing its important mandate, to improve the efficacy of the United Nations in order to make it more responsive and adaptive to current and emerging challenges.

I thank you for your attention.