

Statement by Mr. Mohammad Ghorbanpour
Third Counsellor to the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to
the UN
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement
On the
“Exchange of information on State practices regarding the resort to
regional agencies or arrangements”
Before the “Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on
the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization”
New York, 21 February - 1 March 2023

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The NAM welcomes the introduction of the subtopic on the “Exchange of information on State practices regarding the resort to regional agencies or arrangements” in op.5(a) of resolution 77/109 as a solid foundation for discussion in order to enhance the culture of the peaceful settlement of disputes through appropriate mechanisms.

1- The settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means, such as negotiation, conciliation, arbitration or judicial settlement as well as other peaceful means of the parties’ own choice in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, is one of the founding principles of the Non-Aligned Movement. In this regard, the Movement recognizes the need to broaden international co-operation, reduce tension as well as settle differences and disputes among States by peaceful means.

2- The Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes also enjoins States to “seek in good faith and in a spirit of cooperation an early and equitable settlement of their international disputes” by, among others, resorting to regional agencies or arrangements.

3- While reaffirming the duty of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security as well as justice are not endangered, even in the event of an outbreak of hostilities, the Movement emphasizes the commitment of all its member states to an early, just and peaceful settlement of their disputes.

4- In seeking such a settlement, the parties shall agree upon such peaceful means as may be appropriate to the circumstances and nature of the dispute. In this regard, the Movement stresses that international disputes shall be settled on the basis of the sovereign equality of States. Furthermore, the NAM recalls that the Security Council is conferred with the responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the UN Charter.

5- The Non-Aligned Movement calls upon States and United Nations organs, within their mandate and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, to fully utilize the existing means of peaceful settlement of international disputes and conflicts including through, where applicable and appropriate, resorting to regional agencies or arrangements as provided under articles 33 and 52 of the UN Charter. In this regard, Member States must continue to fully utilize and seek improved implementation of the means and methods provided in the Charter for the exclusively peaceful settlement of any dispute or any situation, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, without impairing the UN Charter.

6- Finally, given the current sensitive and fragile security situation in the world, the Non-Aligned Movement expresses its firm conviction that ensuring reliable collective international security is possible only through peaceful means by strengthening international mechanisms; above all, the United Nations. Universal and comprehensive security requires international common and joint efforts. We are convinced of the urgent need to exert additional efforts to extend the relaxation of international tension to encompass all regions of the world and facilitate the settlement of outstanding international problems by peaceful means through participation of and co-operation among States.

The Non-Aligned Movement encourages its Member States that are party to regional arrangements or agencies to consider the possibility of using or, where appropriate, establishing or improving at the regional level procedures and mechanisms for the early detection, prevention and peaceful settlement of disputes in close coordination with the preventive efforts of the United Nations.

Thank you