

**Statement to the Special Committee on the Charter by  
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Mister/Madam Chair, dear Delegates,

I am here, on behalf of the Secretariat, in response to the General Assembly's request in paragraph 5 of its resolution 78/111 of 7 December 2023, for the Secretary-General to brief the Special Committee on the information referred to in paragraph 15 of his report (A/78/114) on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions.

Article 50 of the Charter provides States with the right to consult the Council with a view to resolving economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures, such as sanctions, imposed by the Council.

As reported for the past several years, following the modification to the Iraq sanctions regime in May 2003, all existing Security Council sanctions regimes are essentially targeted in nature and the unintended consequences for third States are thereby minimized.

Since the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs last briefed the Special Committee in February 2022, the Secretariat has not received any requests from Member States invoking Article 50 of the Charter.

The report of the Secretary-General related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions covers the various types of exemptions provided for by the Security Council that, inter alia, are aimed at preventing any potential adverse impact on individuals and entities, including in third States, due to the implementation of the assets freeze measure.

To ensure that these exemptions are well understood by Member States, sanctions committees have organized meetings with **regional States** to initiate or strengthen dialogue with them, including for discussing any implementation challenges they might be facing. From 2017 to 2021, nine committees held a total of 66 such meetings. In 2022 and 2023, five committees organized a total of 14 such meetings.

In addition, Committee Chairs held **open briefings** for all Member States to discuss their concerns and challenges. From 2017 to 2021, Committee Chairs conducted 35 open briefings. In 2022 and 2023, there were a total of 9 briefings, equivalent to 30 percent of the total briefings held in the previous five years.

To add to this, I would like to emphasize that **visits by committee Chairs** continue to be used to engage with countries most directly affected by sanctions. Of the 20 countries that were visited by ten committee Chairs from 2018 to 2023, 12 were neighboring or regional States of the country of focus of the relevant sanctions regime. Expert groups tasked with assisting committees in monitoring the

implementation of sanctions have also regularly sought to interact with neighboring or regional States, thereby providing an additional opportunity for those States to convey their views and concerns. As with the visits by Committee Chairs, the travel by expert groups were impacted by the COVID-19-related travel restrictions during the period 2022 to 2023.

Finally, I wish to highlight that since the Secretariat's last briefing, the Security Council adopted resolution 2664 (2022) on 9 December 2022, by which the Council instituted a cross-cutting standing humanitarian exemption related to the provision, processing or payment of funds, other financial assets, or economic resources, or the provision of goods and services necessary to ensure the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance or to support other activities that support basic human needs. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to report on unintended humanitarian consequences of Council sanctions measures, including the travel ban and arms embargo measures, and to provide recommendations on ways to minimize and mitigate such unintended adverse consequences. This report was submitted on 8 September 2023 (S/2023/658) and, among others, the Secretary-General encouraged Member States to consider expediting the adoption of measures to ensure the full implementation of resolution 2664 (2022) and other existing humanitarian carveouts in their domestic legislation.

I thank the Chair and the delegates for your kind attention to my briefing.