

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

**20 Feb-28 February**

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation joins the other delegations to congratulate you on your election as Chair of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. I also congratulate the other members of the Bureau on their election. Let me assure you of our full cooperation and support in the deliberations of this Committee.

2. We attach great significance to the work of the Special Committee. It plays an important role in interpreting the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. Since its establishment, the Committee has negotiated various texts leading to the adoption of several instruments by the General Assembly.

3. We thank the Chairman of the Special Committee, Mr. -----and the Bureau have taken note of the Report of the Special Committee as contained in document no. A/ 78/33.

4. We have also taken note of the Secretary-General report A/78/114 on implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 64/115.

5. We take note of the arrangements made in the Secretariat for assisting the third States affected by the applications of sanctions and encourage the Secretariat to continue playing a constructive role in exploring practical and effective assistance measures to the affected third States.

6. We further take note of the role played by the General Assembly and the ECOSOC in assisting third States confronted with special economic problems

arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council.

7. We encourage the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to continue collaborative work with other relevant parts of the Secretariat towards improving the sanctions monitoring framework and sanction assessment methodology.

8. We commend the continuing efforts of the Secretariat and the Secretary-General to update the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and the Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council as these are key sources of reference and effective means of maintaining the institutional memory of the Organization. We encourage the Secretariat to continue its efforts to make the publications available electronically. We appreciate the continuing efforts of the Secretariat and the Secretary-General in updating these two publications and eliminating backlogs.

**Mr. Chairman,**

9. India remains committed to upholding the rules-based international order, underpinned by international law, premised upon respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States.

10. The United Nations represents our collective recognition that only cooperative and effective multilateralism can enable peace and prosperity in the context of the range of inter-connected challenges that we face in our inter-dependent world. India strongly believes in multilateralism and peaceful settlement of disputes according to laid down international laws.

11. The States have the responsibility to settle their disputes by peaceful means, which is a fundamental principle under paragraph 3 of Article 2 of the UN Charter. Article 33 of the UN Charter further strengthens this principle and provides the means which the parties to a dispute can choose freely.

12. We appreciate the role of the International Court of Justice, as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes. We also note the role of the Court under Chapter VI of the UN Charter,

to promote judicial settlement of international disputes before resorting to any other means.

13. The Committee has before it some proposals, which need to be discussed. India supports the retention of the 'Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States' on the agenda of the Special Committee.

**Mr. Chairman**

14. In today's world when images of the devastating humanitarian impact of war and communal conflict invade our living rooms, the imperative to prevent conflict and bloodshed is greater than ever.

15. Article 99 of the UN Charter provides that the Secretary-General, in addition to acting in that capacity in all meetings of the General Assembly, of the Security Council, of the Economic and Social Council and of the Trusteeship Council, 'shall perform such other functions as are entrusted to him by these organs'. These could also include functions in the field of prevention and peaceful settlement of disputes.

16. A Good Offices effort requires empathy and patience, political will, innovative solutions that are in keeping with the times and the needs of each situation. Good Offices efforts cannot contravene or alternative to bilateral mechanisms.

**Mr. Chairman**

17. The Security Council is primarily responsible for Maintenance of international peace and security. In this context, the Security Council has to act on behalf of all member States. However, it is increasingly becoming obvious that the Security Council is facing a crisis of identity, legitimacy and relevance. The answer to the crises lies in invoking and working through Charter provisions that provide for reform and change. We need a Council that is representative, credible, legitimate and fully equipped, rather than one that is a relic of the geo-political construct of 1940s.

18. At the core of India's call for reformed multilateralism, lies the reform of the UN Security Council, reflective of the contemporary realities of today. When power structures continue to reflect the status-quo of a bygone era, they also

start reflecting a lack of appreciation of contemporary geopolitical realities. Our Common Agenda and the Summit of the Future will deliver results only if they respond to the growing calls for reformed multilateralism.

**I thank you Mr. Chairman.**