

Statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement
On the “Exchange of information on State practices regarding the use of good offices”
Before the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
New York, 20-28 February 2024

Mr. Chair,

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

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. 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.

Mr. Chair,

3. The Movement considers the particular attention of the Committee to the subtopic on good offices, as per resolution A/RES/78/111, consistent with the consideration expressed in the resolution adopting Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes which stipulates that “the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes should represent one of the central concerns for States and for the United Nations and that the efforts to strengthen the process of the peaceful settlement of disputes should be continued.”

4. The Non-Aligned Movement recalls that States need to seek in good faith and in a spirit of co-operation an early and equitable settlement of their international disputes through peaceful means including good offices and that in seeking such a settlement, the parties should agree on such peaceful means as may be appropriate to the circumstances and the nature of their dispute. The NAM continues to support efforts in promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes which could include good offices based on the provisions of international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

Mr. Chair;

5. The Non-Aligned Movement appreciates the consideration of the topic of peaceful settlement of disputes and the subtopic on good offices. Good offices as a voluntary means of peaceful settlement of disputes which could be differentiated from mediation, may appear as an underutilized means for resolution of disputes. Good offices has the potential to lead to the resolution of disputes, in appropriate cases and when employed in accordance with international law.
6. The Non-Aligned Movement takes note of the role that the Secretary-General could play in employing his good offices for peaceful resolution of disputes, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations. In similar vein, the Non-Aligned Movement highlights that efforts in employing good offices including that of the Secretary-General of the United Nations should be in compliance with the fundamental principles of international law and the principles set forth within the Charter of the United Nations, in particular, the principles of non-intervention, territorial integrity and sovereign equality as well as based on impartiality.
7. Finally, the Non-Aligned Movement recalls that 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.