



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

STATEMENT

BY

MR. MARVIN IKONDERE

LEGAL ADVISOR

PERMANENT MISSION OF UGANDA TO THE UN

**DURING THE SPECIAL CHARTER COMMITTEE DEBATE ON THE TOPIC
"GOOD OFFICES"**

AT THE

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

22nd February, 2024

NEW YORK

[Please check against delivery]

Mr. Chair,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and would like to add few remarks in my national capacity:

Uganda attaches great importance to the topic good offices which is important for International Peace and Security and supports all initiatives undertaken by the United Nations Secretary General through his good office in his efforts in promoting international peace and security.

Uganda considers the discussions of the Committee on 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.”

Good offices is a fundamental and crucial aspect in the peaceful settlement of disputes. Therefore, we need to reflect on the original purposes of the United Nations and work to resolve current geo-political tensions and man-made conflicts and global insecurity through the use of the good offices as a means to resolve disputes. Uganda 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 yet good offices have the potential to lead to the resolution of disputes, in appropriate cases and when employed in accordance with international law.

A clear manifestation of the use of good offices in advancing peaceful settlement of disputes is seen in the initiatives of the African Union (AU), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), East African Community (EAC), International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). Working closely with the good offices of the different African regional initiatives is based on the fundamental values of multilateralism and seeking African solutions to African problems. We must be steadfast in our resolve to support good offices in the peaceful resolution of conflicts wherever they occur around the world.

Mr. Chair, We must acknowledge that good offices is a critical method of resolving disputes both regional and international, it remains important for the United Nations to engage with key decision-makers on the ground in different regions of the world in order for any effort to prevent violent conflict to be sustained as only they can affect the trajectories of their societies in the short term. Good offices if done effectively can halt a descent into violence and offer a pathway for longer- term solutions to emerge.

To conclude, we would like to stress that all efforts should be made to facilitate and promote friendly relations, dialogue, and cooperation among States, in line with the principles, purposes and values enshrined in both the Charter of the

United Nations and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States.

I thank you.