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STATEMENT BY MS. SHARIFAH NURUL FARIHEEN DELEGATE OF MALAYSIA ON AGENDA ITEM 84: "REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION" AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 70TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, 22 OCTOBER 2015

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia wishes to associate itself with the statement made by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

2. We also wish to express our appreciation to the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization for its work and its report A/70/119 as mandated by resolution 69/122.

3. We view the Special Committee as having contributed positively in the deliberations regarding the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations; on the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under

Chapter VII of the Charter; and on the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States.

4. Malaysia is cognisant of the issues and concerns related to the impact of the application of sanctions for the maintenance of international peace and security. We are, in this regard, strongly of the view that sanctions, as a tool available to the Security Council as provided by the Charter of the United Nations, must not be viewed or utilised as an end in itself but rather as a tool to achieve a political objective, namely towards ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security.

5. We are nevertheless of the view that sanctions should only be considered and applied when other means such as dialogue, consultations and negotiations have been exhausted or when there are imminent threats to international peace and security.

6. The Special Committee, in its report, acknowledges that the various Security Council sanctions committees have increasingly convened meetings in 2014 and 2015 with regional States regarding their concerns and the implementation challenges faced by them. We further note that no sanction committee has received any formal application for assistance from a third State, including the regional States, regarding the application of sanctions. This situation may be partly attributed to the targeted nature and characteristic of the sanctions imposed, as opposed to the more negative, adverse and sometimes unintended impacts related to the imposition of a comprehensive sanctions regime. This is indeed a development that is very much welcomed.

7. We are nevertheless cognisant that the shift to targeted sanctions has implied corresponding changes in the methodological approaches used to assess the impacts of sanctions on third States. We acknowledge that case-by-case assessments of the possible adverse impact on individual countries, both targeted and non-targeted countries, would be required and that the impact of sanctions would need to be evaluated against a baseline drawn from recent historical trends in economic and social conditions in the countries of region.

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Mr. Chairman,

8. My delegation once again expresses its appreciation to the work of the Special Committee. We reiterate that sanctions, as a mechanism available to the Security Council, must not be viewed or utilised as an end in itself but rather as a tool to achieve a political objective, namely towards ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security. We further reiterate that sanctions should only be considered and applied when other means such as dialogue, consultations and negotiations have been exhausted or when there are imminent threats to international peace and security.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.