

(Check against delivery)
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**SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
71th SESSION**

**Briefing by the Officer in Charge of the Security Council Practices
and Charter Research Branch/Security Council Affairs
Division/Department of Political Affairs, on the *Repertoire of the
Practice of the Security Council***

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

1. I am grateful for this opportunity to update members of the Sixth Committee on the status of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* and related activities. Member States have the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* before them (A/71/202). My comments today will not repeat the content of the report and will instead briefly summarize the progress made and provide some key updates.
2. Distinguished delegates, since the last briefing to this Committee, the Secretariat has continued to make good progress in the updating of the *Repertoire*. It has simultaneously worked on the preparation of the 18th and 19th Supplements to the *Repertoire* covering, respectively, the 2012 to 2013 and 2014 to 2015 periods, in order to expedite its coverage of the contemporary practice and procedure of the Security Council.

3. This past year, the Secretariat has completed the drafting of the 18th Supplement, which as I mentioned, covers the period from 2012 to 2013, and all parts of the Supplement have been posted online. Furthermore, as mentioned in the Secretary-General's report, work has commenced on the drafting of the 19th Supplement, covering the period from 2014 to 2015. Part I of the 19th Supplement of the *Repertoire* has been completed and is available online. This Part provides a general overview of the proceedings of the Security Council in respect of the agenda items that relate to its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. We expect the entire volume of the 19th Supplement, that is, the remaining Parts II to X, to be made available in its advance version on the *Repertoire* website in the first quarter of 2017.
4. Progress in the preparation of the *Repertoire* has been and continues to be mostly based on efficiency-enhancing initiatives, such as the specialized training of staff, the review of editorial and other processes, the progressive automation of data collection, the increased use of internal databases and the continuous updating and improvement of the *Repertoire* drafting guidelines.
5. The Secretariat has additionally concluded a lessons learned study on the *Repertoire* and its website with a view to identifying additional measures to improve the publication as well as the tables and graphs made available on the website of the *Repertoire*. Some of the preliminary findings of the study appear to confirm that future progress will very much depend on the availability of resources, which I will address later.
6. In so far as it concerns the publishing status of the drafted supplements of the *Repertoire*, I am glad to report that all English-language versions of the *Repertoire*

up to the 16th Supplement, covering up to the year 2009, have been published and all translated versions up to the 16th Supplement are expected to be available electronically by the end of 2016. The 17th Supplement, covering the period 2010 to 2011, should be available for distribution next month.

7. In this endeavor, we continue to work closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) to shorten the time lag between the completion of a Supplement and its eventual publication in all six official languages.
8. Mr. Chairman, during the last year – as we did in the past – we continued to respond to requests for information from Member States, United Nations staff, students, academic scholars and researchers on questions relating to the current and past practice of the Council and its subsidiary bodies.
9. We also continued to regularly update the *Repertoire* section of the Security Council website and achieved important improvements in the search engine of the *Repertoire* website. We are continuing our efforts to further improve the website as well as the search engine to make more easily available to researchers and other interested persons the wealth of information on practices of the Security Council contained in the *Repertoire*.
10. We would also like to highlight that the website offers a broad range of other tools and information such as tables, graphs and other data featuring, among other things, statistical data on the practice of the Council, the mandates of peacekeeping operations and special political missions, as well as relevant provisions of decisions of the Council in relation to cross-cutting agenda items, namely, children and armed conflict, women and peace and security, and the

protection of civilians. These tools, we believe, enhance the ability of Member States and the public at large to analyze systematically the practice of the Council in the areas mentioned. Subject to the availability of resources, we will continue to strive to make more tools available in the coming year.

11. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, I would also like to underline that the progress made in the preparation and publication of the *Repertoire* as well as the updating of the *Repertoire* section of the Council website would not have been possible without the contributions received to the Trust Fund for the Updating of the *Repertoire*. In this context, we are truly grateful for the contributions made recently by China and Turkey. Furthermore, we are very grateful to China and Saudi Arabia for their recent sponsorship of associate experts and their valuable contribution to advancing our work.
12. In spite of the progress achieved in the recent past, however, we face a heavy workload in sustaining a regular publication schedule for the *Repertoire* to prevent new backlogs from forming, in updating the *Repertoire* section of the Council website in all languages, and in continuing to improve the quality and accessibility of information about the Security Council. As mentioned before, besides the limited regular budget resources, we are also dependent on voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established by the General Assembly in resolution 54/106 and we would therefore strongly encourage all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund or to consider sponsorship of associate experts.
13. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, your feedback on our work is very much appreciated. We continue to stand ready to assist you with information and

guidance on all procedural and constitutional aspects of the current as well as past practice of the Security Council.

14. Thank you.