

**Algeria**



**الجزائر**

Permanent Mission of Algeria  
to the United Nations  
New York

بعثة الجزائر الدائمة  
لدى الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

**Statement**

**On behalf of the African Group**

**by**

**Ambassador Sabri Boukadoum**

**Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations**

**Before the Sixth Committee**

**72<sup>nd</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Under Agenda Item 83**

**“Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and  
on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization”**

New York, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**Mr. Chairman,**

Algeria has the honour to speak on behalf of the African Group. The African Group associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

I would like to thank the Chair of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, as well as members of the Bureau, for the comprehensive report presented on the work of the Special Committee during its 2017 annual session (A/72/33).

**Mr. Chairman,**

The African Group attaches great importance to the work of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. Allow me to begin by reiterating what the African Group has been saying over the years that the Charter Committee has the potential to play an exceedingly important role in this Organization. However, the Committee has not lived up to its full potential mainly because of our method of work and our tendency to allow ideological battles to prevent us from performing our function which is legal analysis.

**Mr. Chairman,**

It is the African Group's view that the work of the Committee should primarily be directed at ensuring that the organization lives up to the goals of the rule of law and justice. As the African Group has stated before, the organization cannot demand of its members to adhere to the rule of law while itself makes no attempt to demonstrate or reflect this important principle. The work of this Committee should therefore contribute to protecting the Organization from being labeled hypocritical.

**Mr. Chairman,**

As the premier organ mandated to ensure that there is peace, security and stability in the world, the Security Council first and foremost needs to become more representative. Equally, it needs to address the problems in its working methods. Maintaining the status quo will only contribute to the further erosion of its credibility and legitimacy and will lead to the weakening of the Organization – the precise opposite of the purpose of this Committee.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The Committee has, currently on its agenda, several topics that could benefit from careful scrutiny. The African Group will examine them constructively. As such, the Group is calling for their meaningful consideration by the Committee.

The African Group reiterates its support to Ghana's working paper on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes. This is a topic which the Group believes could really benefit from an in-depth discussion and analysis. The Special Committee on the Charter could contribute meaningfully to this development and this could allow us to break free from the

ideological chains which so often burden the work of this Committee and our deliberations. We are satisfied by the support of delegations to the working paper during this year session, noting that the subject is topical and could help to fill gaps in the work of the United Nations.

This year session of the Charter Committee was also successful because of the finalization of the NAM proposal entitled “Pacific settlement of disputes and its impact on the maintenance of peace”. As such, it has been decided to undertake an annual thematic debate under the agenda item relating to “Peaceful settlement of disputes”, so to discuss ways and means to peacefully settle disputes under Charter VI of the United Nations Charter. Next year first thematic debate will focus on the subtopic entitled “Exchange of information on States practices regarding the use of negotiation and enquiry”.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In conclusion, the African Group looks forward to holding fruitful discussion during the first annual thematic debate on peaceful settlement of disputes next year, as well as a positive consideration of the revised working paper by Ghana on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies, at the next session of Charter Committee.

**I thank you for your attention.**