

Statement by Algeria at the Sixth Committee
On agenda item 85 “Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization”

New York, October 15, 2018

Mr Chairman,

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered respectively by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-aligned movement and by the Gambia on behalf of the African Group.

At the outset, allow me to thank the Chair of the Special Committee on the Charter and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, for his comprehensive report contained in document A/73/33.

Mr Chairman,

My delegation welcomes this opportunity to express its continued support and appreciation for the work of the Special Committee on the Charter and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization as being the only standing mechanism for deliberations on the Charter of the United Nations and for its role in the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, and the promotion of the principles of international law, as well as in the peaceful settlement of international disputes. We reaffirm, in this regard, the relevance of the provisions of Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, as approved by the General Assembly in 1982.

My delegation supports the efforts undertaken by Member states to consider ways and means to improve the efficiency of the Special Committee and its working methods and ensure greater interaction and substantive discussions on proposals before the Special Committee. Political will is critical to achieve progress in its programme of work, particularly on some longstanding issues. We believe that all the proposals before the Special Committee merit to be duly considered.

Despite lack of progress in the consideration of some of these proposals, we are encouraged by the reinvigoration of the work of the Special Committee.

On the question of maintenance of international peace and security, Algeria remains concerned about the impact of the application of sanctions, particularly in regard to 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 in order to minimize any adverse impact that sanctions might cause to civilian population and third States.

In this respect, we would like to recall that sanctions must be implemented strictly in accordance with the Charter and relevant principles of international law, and as a measure of last resort and within a clear framework, in order to minimize any adverse consequences on vulnerable groups, civilian populations and on third States. Thus, objectives of sanctions and their goal for a target State must be clearly defined, based on tenable legal grounds and imposed for a clear time frame.

Mr Chairman,

We reiterate the importance of the full respect the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the provisions related to functions and powers of the United Nations main organs and to maintain the right balance between these bodies. In this connection, the ongoing process of the United Nations reform, including the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, would certainly benefit from the deliberations of the Special Committee in this regard.

We encourage the Special Committee to continue its in-depth consideration of all proposals related to the maintenance of international peace and security. This is particularly relevant to the working paper on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes, submitted by Ghana during the Special Committee's last Session. We welcome the positive consideration of the revised document by Member States and look forward to the future submission by Ghana of draft guidelines related to this topic.

Mr Chairman,

Algeria is committed to the principles of the UN Charter on the peaceful settlement of disputes and recognizes at the same time the vital role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the prevention and settlement of disputes amongst States.

We welcome, the consideration by the Committee of the NAM proposal entitled "Peaceful settlement of disputes" under which the first thematic debate on the use of negotiation and inquiry, took place last February. The upcoming annual debate dedicated to the theme of mediation is yet an opportunity to exchange views on best practices amongst States reflecting the variety of instruments for peaceful settlement in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, with a particular focus on mediation.

Finally, Mr Chairman, we support the ongoing efforts to update the Repertory of Practice of United Nations organs and the Repertoire of the practice of the Security Council. We hope that the Secretariat will soon address the backlog in the preparation of these publications. This issue should be given higher priority with specified resources being allocated for this purpose.

I thank you.