



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
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(translation)

Statement by Mr. Yang Xi

Chinese Delegate

**At the Sixth Committee of the 74th Session of
the United Nations General Assembly**

On Agenda Item 82

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

New York, 18 October 2019

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation thanks Madam Theofili, Chair of the Special Committee for her presentation on the work of the Special Committee at its 2019 regular session .

As the sole permanent meeting mechanism within the UN framework to discuss issues related to the UN Charter and the strengthening of the role of the Organization, the Special Committee has contributed significantly to safeguarding the purposes and principles of the Charter and strengthening the role of the United Nations. China has always attached importance to the positive role of the Committee and supported the Committee in carrying out its work within its purview as mandated by the General Assembly.

“Peaceful settlement of disputes” is an important item on the current agenda of the Committee, the 2019 regular session focused its discussions on the means of mediation, and China took an active part in the discussions. Mediation, as prescribed by the Charter, is an important means for resolving disputes. It has historically played its useful role, and is still widely used today. As a means of dispute resolution with the third party involvement, mediation, when used, should be in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter, with state consent as a precondition, and should not be imposed on any country. Only when mediation is undertaken on a voluntary and equal basis, and fully reflects the spirit of amity and mutual accommodation , can it play its unique role in resolving disputes, and can its results be more readily accepted by the parties concerned.

As a founding member of the United Nations and a permanent member of the Security Council, China has always taken the maintenance of regional and international peace as its own due responsibility, and has actively

promoted the solution of the international and regional hot spot issues by peaceful means. When doing the related work, China has adhered to the principle of non-interference in internal affairs ,respected the sovereignty and will of the countries concerned, upheld objectivity and impartiality, resolutely opposed seeking self-interest, and acted in compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter, thus making due contributions to maintaining the regional and international peace through its unremitting efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

With regard to the item of “introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations”, China has always maintained that UN sanctions are not the end but the means, and should serve the political solutions of the relevant problems. The Security council should exercise prudence in its use of sanction measures which should be predicated upon the exhaustion of other non-enforcement measures, be consistent with the Charter and the relevant principles of international law so as to minimize the impact on the general population and third states. China believes that we should strictly abide by and implement the sanctions resolutions of the Security Council, and oppose the imposition of additional unilateral sanctions in contravention of the Charter and international law in order to uphold the purposes and principles of the Charter and the authority of international law. Currently certain country is pursuing unilateralism and willfully imposing unilateral sanctions to the detriment of effectiveness and authority of the UN sanctions. Against such a background, this agenda item assumes heightened relevance and merits the continued and thorough discussions by the Committee.

Some countries proposed to seek an advisory opinion from the ICJ on

the legal consequences of the resort to the use of force by states without prior authorization of the Security Council, China believes that this proposal can help clarify the rules of international law on the prohibition on the use of force and facilitate the interpretation and implementation of the Charter. Therefore, China supports further deliberations by the Committee on the proposal. Some countries have proposed to discuss the issue of interpretation and application of Article 51 provisions on the right to self-defense, China is willing to consider it favorably. China is of the view that the exercise of the right to self-defense must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter, and any expanded interpretation and abuse of the right to self-defense must be avoided.

With regard to improving the Committee's working method and efficiency, China hopes that all parties will, out of the need for strengthening the role of the Committee, and in the spirit of pragmatism and consultations, explore new viable and effective ideas and ways. China commends the Secretariat for the progress made in compiling the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and updating the Repertoire of the Practices of the Security Council. We hope that the Secretariat will continue to facilitate the publication of these two important documents in all UN official languages.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.