



**STATEMENT
TO BE DELIVERED
BY
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DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZIMBABWE
DURING THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
76TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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”**

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Madame Chairperson,

Thank you for giving me the floor.

Zimbabwe aligns itself with the statements delivered by Morocco, on behalf of the Africa Group, Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and Venezuela, on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter. However, I wish to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

Madame Chairperson,

The UN represents the collective resolve of all Member States in advancing, among other issues, justice; respect for the UN Charter and international law; peaceful settlement of disputes; maintenance of international peace and security; and international cooperation. Hence, it is important for us to reaffirm our commitment to the UN Charter and to multilateralism. It is my delegations fervent view that, international cooperation, solidarity and multilateralism are catalysts for advancing peace and development.

Zimbabwe fully supports the enhancement of the relationship and cooperation between the UN and regional arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes. Regional organizations are closer to the areas of conflict and hence appropriately positioned to better understand the dynamics of the conflicts. By virtue of their proximity, regional organizations also appreciate the specific intervention requirements that would be needed to end the conflicts. Therefore, partnership and cooperation between the UN and the regional organizations is critical.

In that vein, Zimbabwe supports Ghana's proposal on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the UN and regional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, which calls for more structured engagements

between the two, and is a fundamental principle of international law embodied in Articles 2 (3) and 33 of the UN Charter. States must refrain from the threat or use of force as a way of settling disputes. Preventative diplomacy is also important in conflict prevention and peaceful settlement of disputes. The role of women in all stages of conflict resolution and in the peaceful settlement of disputes can never be over-emphasized.

Madame Chairperson,

Zimbabwe fully supports that the Special Committee continues to analyze all means envisaged in Chapter 6 of the UN Charter on Pacific Settlements of Disputes, which states that Parties to a dispute, which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, should seek a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement and resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means.

Considering the Special Committee's mandate, *inter alia*, to continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations, Zimbabwe supports that the peaceful settlement of disputes remains on its agenda.

Madame Chairperson,

My delegation maintains its commitment to constructively engage in the work of the Special Committee and believes that Member States should play a greater role in improving its working methods. On that score, we implore that we continue to explore, and adopt new measures and topics that advance the work of the Special Committee.

Zimbabwe believes that sanctions should be introduced and applied in conformity with the provisions of the UN Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law, international human rights law and international refugee law. Procedures to apply sanctions on States should be fair and clear, and should respect the rights of the sanctioned States. Also, sanctions should not be imposed indiscriminately or be used to inflict suffering on vulnerable groups in the targeted States. In cases where sanctions are applied, it is important to consider providing assistance to third States that would be affected in order to minimize the adverse impacts on the general public and third States.

My delegation is concerned about the imposition of unilateral sanctions in violation of international law and international humanitarian law. Such sanctions disregard the sovereignty of States and the principles of the UN Charter, and therefore should not be condoned and allowed to continue unabated. There is value in the proposal by Iran regarding the need for legal analysis on unilateral coercive measures to ensure a clearer understanding of their impacts on the right to development of targeted States, and other pertinent matters.

Madame Chairperson

In conclusion, my delegation wishes to underline that the work of the Special Committee plays a fundamental role in reinforcing the adherence by Member States to the UN Charter and international law. However, more needs to be done to increase the visibility of the work of the Committee in strengthening the role of the UN and exhaust the topics which are still on its agenda. Failure to address these topics runs counter to the mandate of the Special Committee, to improve the efficacy of the United Nations to be more responsive and adaptive to emerging challenges.

I thank you for your attention.