

**STATEMENT
ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP**

**BEFORE THE SIXTH COMMITTEE
OF THE
79th ~~78th~~ SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**“REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED
NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION”**

NEW YORK, 4TH NOVEMBER, 2024

Chairperson,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the African Group.

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, the members of the Bureau, as well as the Secretariat for the work undertaken during the 2024 session and for the report contained in document ~~A/79/33-A/78/33~~ on the work of the Special Committee during the 78th Session of the General Assembly. While we note that the latter does not reflect the extent of the work undertaken during the past session, we remain confident that at its next session the Committee will continue its important work.

Chairperson,

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 as it has the potential to play an important role within our Organization. However, due in part to our working methods and our tendency to let ideological battles take precedence over legal analysis, the Committee, which was created in application of the resolution 3499 (XXX) has over the years, not been able to exploit its full this potential.

In this context, we encourage the Special Committee to continue its in-depth consideration of the proposals on its Agenda. Indeed, the Committee currently has on its Agenda, several topics that could benefit from careful scrutiny and the African Group will continue to examine them constructively.

We also recommend that the Committee examine the necessary means to strengthen its role all while ensuring respect for the mandate given to each UN organ, as clearly stipulated in the UN Charter.

Chairperson,

The African Group welcomes the discussions on ways and means to peacefully settle disputes under Charter VI of the United Nations Charter. We believe it is imperative to resort to all peaceful means of settling disputes as stated in Article 33 of the United Nations Charter and voice our support for the Special Committee's willingness to continue analyzing all means there envisaged.

Reiterating our longstanding views, the African Group underlines the importance of strict adherence to the purpose and principles of the UN Charter, in particular the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and non-interference in domestic affairs, as well as the equally important role of preventive diplomacy in conflict

prevention, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the promotion of a culture of peace.

In this context, the Group would like to stress that unilateral coercive measures and legislation run counter to these fundamental principles of international law as well as several international human rights treaties and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among Member States. We would like to stress that the African Member States strongly object the extraterritorial nature of unilateral coercive measures and call upon all States neither to recognize these measures nor to apply them.

Mr. Chair

The African group fully supports all efforts aimed towards promoting the peaceful settlement of disputes based on provisions of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. In this regard, the annual thematic debates on the means for the settlement of disputes is an important initiative highlighted by the African Group to the Charter Committee. A constructive and informative debate was held this year on States' practices regarding the resort to regional agencies or arrangements exchange of information on state practices regarding the use of good offices under the agenda item on peaceful settlement of disputes.

Building upon the information presented within the debate, we are looking forward to discussing other means as well in order to work towards better understanding and progress. The Movement maintains that these annual thematic debates on means of dispute settlement can contribute to more efficient and effective use of such peaceful means while promoting a culture of peace among Member States.

Mr. Chair,

The Committee should redouble its efforts, inter alia, to examine suggestions and proposals regarding the Charter and the strengthening of the role of the UN. Moreover, we are ready to engage in discussion with other groups to arrange a work programme for the Charter Committee to facilitate any discussion in the future with the aim of enhancing the ability of the UN to achieve its purposes.

I thank you for your kind attention.