



UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement at the 79th General Assembly Sixth Committee
Agenda Item 83: Report on the UN Charter and
Strengthening the Role of the Organization
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Thank you, Chair.

The United States commends the Secretariat for its diligent work supporting the Special Committee on the UN Charter and Strengthening the Role of the Organization. We would like to offer several observations about the work of the Committee.

First, the United States affirms its commitment to the Charter of the United Nations, including its purposes and principles. The United States participated this year in the annual thematic debate on the use of good offices to facilitate the peaceful settlement of disputes. Our remarks focused on the important contributions of states and Secretaries-General in supporting peace and ending violence. We look forward to continuing robust discussions among Member States to share perspectives on the means of peaceful settlement of disputes between states.

The United States appreciates the annual briefing on sanctions. As we continually emphasize, we see carefully targeted sanctions adopted by the Security Council as a vital instrument in furtherance of its mandate under the UN Charter to maintain international peace and security. The United States continues to support international engagement on the implementation of sanctions.

In addition to observing and respecting UN sanctions, the United States legitimately leverages domestic authorities, carefully regulating our domestic financial systems to address threats to international peace and security. The United States reiterates that its autonomous sanctions are consistent with international law. We reject the attempt by some States to denigrate the ability of independent nations to ensure their collective security through the peaceful regulation of their own resources. Autonomous sanctions remain an appropriate, effective, and legitimate tool of foreign policy, enabling states to address threats to national security and issues of international concern such as human rights abuses. We are not alone in that view. Some of the countries that are represented in this room and are denouncing autonomous sanctions are employing autonomous sanctions.

We go to tremendous lengths to avoid unintended consequences of sanctions, including with respect to humanitarian assistance and the provision of food and medicine. The United States and Ireland advanced the landmark UN Security Council resolution 2664 in 2022, a resolution that created a carveout for humanitarian efforts across UN sanctions regimes. We have implemented similar authorizations in our domestic sanctions programs to help ensure that our sanctions do not impede humanitarian assistance. Those efforts involved the issuance of a historic package of humanitarian-related authorizations across our domestic sanctions programs to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid, including to those most in need in conflict zones, while mitigating the risk of its diversion or abuse by malicious actors.

With respect to the proposal of new subjects for consideration by the UN Charter Committee, the United States reiterates its longstanding view that the Committee should welcome practical, non-political, and non-duplicative proposals. The United States notes with regret the use of the Special Committee as a venue to air disputes that would be more productively addressed through bilateral engagement or that would be more appropriately handled in other UN fora.

Finally, the U.S. delegation again expresses its disappointment that the Special Committee could not adopt a substantive report accurately memorializing the contributions and deliberations of Member States. It is natural that Member States disagree on important matters before the Special Committee. Yet the integrity of the historical record and the continuity of work of the Special Committee require that such divergent positions be accurately and clearly indicated. We urge a return to the well-established tradition of the Special Committee to accurately represent the exchange of views by Member States.

Thank you.