Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 8 December 2003

[on the report of the First Committee (A/58/462)]

58/41. Improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee

The General Assembly,

Expressing grave concern over both existing threats to international peace and security and new threats that have become manifest in the post-September 11, 2001 period,

Reaffirming the role of the First Committee of the General Assembly in dealing with questions of disarmament and related international security issues, consistent with the functions and powers of the Assembly in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments, as stipulated in Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that the improvement of the methods of work of the First Committee would complement and facilitate the broader effort to revitalize the General Assembly,

Noting in this regard the relevant reports of the Secretary-General and related General Assembly resolutions on this subject, as well as the ongoing process in the open-ended informal consultations in the plenary on the revitalization of the Assembly chaired by its President, and seeking to contribute to this effort,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to seek the views of Member States on the issue of improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee, to prepare a report compiling and organizing the views of Member States on appropriate options, and to submit the report to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-ninth session;

2. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled “Improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee”.

71st plenary meeting
8 December 2003