Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 2015

[on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/70/510)]


The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,¹

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled “Supplement to an Agenda for Peace”, by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying-out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling also that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Mindful of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council”,

Recalling paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

Mindful of the decision of the Special Committee in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,


Recalling also its resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009 and the document entitled “Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations” annexed thereto,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2015,

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. Takes note of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;

2. Decides that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 16 to 24 February 2016;

3. Requests the Special Committee, at its session in 2016, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(a) 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 and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2016, including strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations or arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes;

(b) To continue to consider, in an appropriate, substantive manner and framework, including the frequency of its consideration, the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of

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3 A/70/295.
4 Resolution 60/1.
6 Ibid., Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/70/33).
sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter based on all of the related reports of the 
Secretary-General7 and the proposals submitted on the question;

(c) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes 
between States;

(d) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General 
Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the high-level plenary meeting of the 
sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and 
any amendments thereto;

(e) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its 
working methods and enhancing its efficiency and utilization of resources with a view to 
identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. Invites the Special Committee, at its session in 2016, to continue to identify 
new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the 
revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

5. Recalls the consideration by the Special Committee of the proposal to 
commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations, and 
welcomes the activities performed in this regard;

6. Notes the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, 
such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General 
Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

7. Requests the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General 
Assembly at its seventy-first session;

8. Recognizes the important role of the International Court of Justice, the 
principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and 
the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the 
peaceful settlement of disputes, notes that, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, the 
Court’s advisory jurisdiction may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security 
Council or other authorized organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and 
requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested 
by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

9. Commends the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of 
studies for the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs, including the increased 
use of the internship programme of the United Nations and further expanded cooperation 
with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating 
the Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council;

10. Notes with appreciation the contributions made by Member States to the trust 
fund for the elimination of the backlog in the Repertory, as well as the trust fund for the 
updating of the Repertoire;

11. Reiterates its call for voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the 
elimination of the backlog in the Repertory so as to further support the Secretariat in 
carrying out the effective elimination of that backlog; voluntary contributions to the trust 
fund for the updating of the Repertoire; and the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis and with 
no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two 
publications;

A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1, A/56/303, A/57/165 and Add.1, A/58/346, A/59/334, A/60/320, 
and A/70/119.
12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions;

13. *Notes with concern* that the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory*, although slightly reduced, has not been eliminated, and calls upon the Secretary-General to address that issue effectively and on a priority basis, while commending the Secretary-General for progress made in reducing the backlog;

14. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and with regard to the *Repertoire* calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report dated 18 September 1952;\(^8\)

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Special Committee at its next session on the information referred to in paragraph 12 of his report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;\(^9\)

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, under the item entitled “Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization”, a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled “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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\(^8\) A/2170.  
\(^9\) A/70/119.