



# General Assembly

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## Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

### Summary record of the 29th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 13 May 2019, at 3 p.m.

*Chair:* Mr. Kemayah, Sr. .... (Liberia)

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Agenda item 56: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*)

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*The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.*

**Agenda item 56: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects** (*continued*) (A/C.4/73/L.23)

*Draft resolution A/C.4/73/L.23: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects*

1. **Mr. Mahfouz** (Egypt), Rapporteur of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, introducing the Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations on its 2019 substantive session (A/73/19), said that the Special Committee had met from 11 February to 8 March and on 27 March 2019. The Working Group of the Whole had convened briefings on 14 and 15 February and met from 22 February to 8 March to discuss and finalize the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, but had not reached agreement on a substantive part of the report. Consequently, the Special Committee had decided that its Chair should convene an open-ended intersessional group of “friends of the Chair” to consider its working methods.

2. Turning to the draft resolution entitled “Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects” (A/C.4/73/L.23), he said that it was based on similar resolutions adopted in recent years. Revisions had been made to take account of the fact that the report was procedural in nature and did not contain recommendations.

3. **The Chair** said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

4. *Draft resolution A/C.4/73/L.23 was adopted.*

5. **Mr. Arbeiter** (Canada), making a general statement after the decision, said that he would provide an update on the intersessional consultations conducted by the Working Group of the Whole to improve the working methods of the Special Committee and offer an overview of the steps to be taken ahead of the next session.

6. After the Special Committee had produced no substantive outcome in 2013, it had reviewed its working methods in depth, leading to several innovations that had benefited the Committee in recent years. With the support of all delegations, that experience could be built on in the current intersessional period to further improve the Committee’s methods. To do so, it was important to listen to the suggestions and recommendations of all participants. It had therefore conducted initial informal consultations with all

regional groups and delegations that had participated in negotiations that year. Meetings would also be held with members of the Secretariat and Chairs of other Committees to gain insight into best practices from similar processes across the United Nations system, which would be shared. Past practices in the Special Committee would also be reviewed to see what could be learnt from previous approaches.

7. A formal meeting would be conducted with all regional coordinators to discuss working methods. The majority of the recommendations and suggestions received informally had pertained to the procedural approach to deliberations and to the structure of the Special Committee’s report. Accordingly, the focus of formal consultations could centre on those areas, aiming to reach consensus on new working methods prior to July 2019 to then allow the Committee to endorse potential changes to working methods.

*The meeting rose at 3.15 p.m.*