



General Assembly

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Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

22 February–2 March 2022

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Ligia Lorena Flores Soto (El Salvador)

III. Peaceful settlement of disputes

B. Proposal by the Russian Federation to recommend that the Secretariat be requested to establish a website on the peaceful settlement of disputes and update the *Handbook on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States*

1. During the general exchange of views held at the 300th meeting of the Special Committee, on 22 February, and at the 3rd meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 25 February, the proposal by the Russian Federation to recommend that the Secretariat be requested to establish a website on the peaceful settlement of disputes and update the *Handbook on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States*, as revised in 2014 (A/69/33, para. 52), was considered. The sponsor delegation recalled its proposal and urged delegations to support it.

2. During the general exchange of views and in the Working Group of the Whole, several delegations voiced support for the proposal. It was reiterated that the *Handbook* was a valuable document and that updating it would be useful for taking into account the best practices shared by Member States in the Special Committee during the annual thematic debate on the means for the settlement of disputes. The view was expressed that the proposal would have an impact in terms of improving international law in the field of maintenance of international peace and security, as well as promote the rule of law.

3. Other delegations questioned the added value of the proposal, given the availability and accessibility of other sources of information online, and continued to maintain their concern that it would not be a proper prioritization of the existing limited resources allocated to the Secretariat. Clarification was sought from the Secretariat as to how establishing the website and updating the *Handbook* could be prioritized within existing resources.

