



# 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

New York, 18–26 February 2025

### Draft report

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#### IV. *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*

1. Reference was made to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* during the general exchange of views held at the 312th and 313th meetings of the Special Committee, on 18 February, and at the 2nd meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 20 February.

2. During the general exchange of views and in the Working Group of the Whole, the significance of the two publications in providing analytical studies of the application and interpretation of the Charter and preserving the institutional memory of the Organization was recalled. Delegations commended the Secretariat on its continuing efforts to update the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* and to eliminate the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory* and expressed gratitude to those Member States that had made voluntary contributions to the trust funds for the preparation of the two publications. Several delegations noted with concern that the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory*, in particular volume III, had not been eliminated and called upon the Secretary-General to address the issue effectively and as a priority. The Secretariat was commended for expanding the use of technology to make the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* available electronically and accessible on their respective websites. The need to publish the two publications in all official languages of the United Nations was noted.

3. At the 2nd meeting of the Working Group, the representatives of the Secretariat gave a briefing on the status of the preparation of the *Repertoire* and the *Repertory*.

4. With regard to the status of the *Repertoire*, further to the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/79/188), it was reported that significant progress continued to be made in the preparation of the publication, with a focus on the completion of the twenty-sixth supplement and the commencement of the preparation of the twenty-seventh supplement, covering the years 2023 and 2024,



respectively. More specifically, it was noted that the advance version of the twenty-sixth supplement had been completed and posted online in December 2024. It was also reported that the preparation of the twenty-seventh supplement was well under way and that advance versions of sections of that edition were planned to be uploaded during the second quarter of the year, with a view to having the full publication available online by October 2025. It was also noted that the preparatory work on the twenty-eighth supplement, covering the year 2025, had commenced. In addition, it was reported that the editing and translation of prior editions of the *Repertoire* had maintained their scheduled course. The final version of the twenty-fifth supplement (covering 2022) had been published in October 2024, and the twenty-sixth supplement (covering 2023) was scheduled for publication in English in October 2025. It was noted that *Repertoire* editions covering the period from 1989 to 2021 were available online in all six official languages, and translation of the twenty-fifth supplement was expected to be completed by May 2025.

5. With regard to innovation and the use of technology, it was reported that the Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch of the Security Council Affairs Division continued to prioritize the use of innovative technology as a means of highlighting various aspects of the practice of the Council and enhancing the effectiveness of the collection and analysis of relevant data. The Branch currently maintained over 20 online dashboards and data sets on the practice of the Security Council, including a new online dashboard covering the Council's practice on climate and peace and security, launched in June 2024. In January 2025, the 2024 edition of the annual *Highlights of Security Council Practice* was released. Furthermore, the monthly newsletter entitled "UN Security Council in Review" continued to be issued.

6. It was further reported that, in July 2024, the Security Council Affairs Division had launched a new and modernized Security Council website, which had made the *Repertoire* and the research tools on the work of the Council more visible, accessible and user-friendly.

7. Gratitude was expressed for the enhanced support of Member States through their voluntary contributions to the trust fund for updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*. It was noted that the resources under the trust fund had enabled the Branch to hire temporary staff to assist in the research, drafting and data analysis work. In October 2024, the Branch launched a new interactive dashboard on the status of the trust fund, providing an overview of Member States' contributions since its establishment in 1999 and of their support for the Branch through the Junior Professional Officer (associate expert) programme. The generous contributions made by Member States were noted. At the same time, it was noted that the levels and overall predictability of funding remained a concern.

8. It was further recalled that the 2025 appeal for contributions to the trust fund had been launched, with the following three main objectives: maintaining the annual publication schedule of the *Repertoire*; meeting the increasing demand of Member States for real-time data on the Council by creating new data sets and enhancing some existing data sets; and improving data collection methodology in support of the first two objectives.

9. Concerning the status of the *Repertory*, a briefing was given on the main developments since the issuance of the most recent report on the *Repertory* and *Repertoire*.

10. With regard to new studies in preparation, it was reported that, with regard to the call made upon the Secretary-General to address, effectively and on a priority basis, the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory* (General Assembly resolution [79/125](#), para. 16), four studies pertaining to that volume were in preparation by the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa, on Articles 31 and 37

of the Charter (for Supplement No. 11 (2010–2015)) and on Article 47 (for Supplement No. 11 and Supplement No. 12 (2016–2020)). It was noted that the Faculty was also in the process of preparing three studies for volume II, on articles 19, 20 and 22 (for Supplement No. 12), and two studies for volume IV, on Article 57 (for Supplements Nos. 11 and 12). That brought the total number of studies in preparation to nine.

11. It was also noted that Volume II of Supplement 10 (2000–2009) had been published on the Repertory website in English, French and Spanish and that one study on Article 13 (1) (a) (second part of the sentence) for Volume II of Supplement No. 11 had been completed. It was also reported that one study on Article 13 (1) (a) (second part of the sentence) for volume II of Supplement No. 12 had been reviewed by the author department (various divisions within the Office of Legal Affairs) and was in the process of being finalized. Furthermore, one study on Articles 104 and 105 for volume VI of Supplement No. 11 remained under review by its author department, the Office of Legal Affairs.

12. With regard to the participation of academic institutions in the research and drafting of studies for the *Repertory*, gratitude was expressed to the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa for its continued support.

13. Delegations were once again invited to increase the interest of academic institutions in their countries or regions in participating in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory*, while taking into account the importance of geographical diversity in that respect.

14. The attention of delegations was also drawn to the call for contributions to the trust fund to eliminate the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory*. In that regard, it was noted that, as at 31 January 2025, the available balance of the fund was \$93,030.

15. Following the reports by the representatives of the Secretariat, several delegations noted the efforts made to update the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, while reiterating their calls upon the Secretary-General to address the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory* effectively and as a priority.

16. The Special Committee recommends that the General Assembly:

(a) Commend the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the use of the internship programme of the United Nations and cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

(b) Further encourage Member States to identify academic institutions that have the capacity to contribute to the preparation of studies for the *Repertory* and to provide the contact details of such institutions, and in this regard further welcome the initiative of the Secretariat also to invite members of the International Law Commission to recommend academic institutions that the Secretariat could contact for this purpose;

(c) Note with appreciation the contributions made by Member States to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* and to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*, as well as other contributions, including the sponsoring of associate experts to assist in the updating of the *Repertoire*;

(d) Reiterate 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* so as to sustain the annual publication

schedule; 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;

(e) Call upon the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions, and encourage the continued updating of the websites for the *Repertory*<sup>1</sup> and for the *Repertoire*;<sup>2</sup>

(f) Note with concern that the backlog in the preparation of all volumes of the *Repertory*, in particular volume III, although slightly reduced, has not been eliminated, and call 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;

(g) Reiterate the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and with regard to the *Repertoire* call upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report dated 18 September 1952.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://legal.un.org/repertory>.

<sup>2</sup> [www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/repertoire/structure](http://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/repertoire/structure).

<sup>3</sup> A/2170.