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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE
OF THE ORGANIZATION

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Awn S. AL-KHASAWNEH (Jordan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. 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" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly pursuant to paragraph 6 of Assembly resolution 31/28 of 29 November 1976.
2. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 23 September 1977, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in the agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.
3. At the 19th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Finland, Mr. Bengt H. G. A. Broms, in his capacity as Chairman of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, introduced the Committee's report. 1/
4. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 19th to 23rd, 25th to 30th, 32nd and 33rd meetings, held on 17 to 19, 21 to 26, 28 and 31 October, respectively. The summary records of these meetings (A/C.6/SR.19-23, 25-30, 32 and 33) contain the views of representatives who spoke during the consideration of this item.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/32/33).

II. PROPOSALS

5. At the 20th meeting, on 18 October, the representative of the Philippines introduced a draft resolution (A/C.6/32/L.2*) sponsored by Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, the Central African Empire, Chad, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Swaziland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zambia, later joined by Turkey. At the 33rd meeting, on 31 October, the Chairman announced that, after the Sixth Committee had taken its decision on the draft resolution (see para. 9 below), the delegations of Angola and Cyprus had informed him of their desire to be sponsors of the draft resolution. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 992 (X) of 21 November 1955, 2285 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, 2552 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2697 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 2968 (XXVII) of 14 December 1972 and 3349 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974,

"Recalling also its resolution 2925 (XXVII) of 27 November 1972, 3073 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973 and 3282 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 on the strengthening of the role of the United Nations,

"Recalling especially resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which the General Assembly established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and resolution 31/28 of 29 November 1976,

"Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, 2/

"Noting that the Special Committee had examined in detail the observations received from Governments contained in the Secretary-General's analytical study concerning suggestions and proposals regarding the Charter of the United Nations and the strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States,

"Considering that the Special Committee has not yet completed the mandate given to it,

* Reissued for technical reasons.

2/ Ibid.

"Reaffirming its support for the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

"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 should continue its work in pursuance of the following tasks with which it is entrusted:

"(a) To list the proposals which have been made or will be made in the Committee and to identify those which have awakened special interest;

"(b) To examine proposals which have been made or will be made in the Committee with a view to according priority to the consideration of those areas on which general agreement is possible;

"3. Requests the Special Committee to be mindful of the importance of reaching general agreement whenever it has significance for the outcome of its work;

"4. Urges members of the Special Committee to participate fully in its work in fulfilment of the mandate entrusted to it;

"5. Invites Governments to submit, or to bring up to date, their observations and proposals in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to render all assistance to the Special Committee, including the preparation of summary records of its meetings;

"7. Requests the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

"8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third 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'."

6. The representative of Cyprus submitted an amendment (A/C.6/32/L.3) to the draft resolution, which called for the insertion, in operative paragraph 2, of a new subparagraph (c) to read as follows:

"(c) To concentrate first on those proposals which strengthen the role of the United Nations without requiring amendment of the Charter."

7. At the 32nd meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Cyprus withdrew his amendment (A/C.6/32/L.3). His statement and statements made by other representatives thereon are included in the summary record of the 32nd meeting.

8. The Sixth Committee had before it a statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.6/32/L.5) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.6/32/L.2*. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a further statement in that connexion. In addition, the representative of the Budget Division made a statement in response to certain questions raised.

III. DECISIONS OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

9. At its 32nd meeting, the Sixth Committee adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.6/32/L.2* (see para. 11 below).

10. At the same meeting, the Sixth Committee also decided that the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization should meet at United Nations Headquarters from 27 February to 24 March 1978.

IV. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

11. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

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

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 992 (X) of 21 November 1955, 2285 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, 2552 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2697 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 2968 (XXVII) of 14 December 1972 and 3349 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974,

Recalling also its resolutions 2925 (XXVII) of 27 November 1972, 3073 (XXVIII) of 30 November 1973 and 3282 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 on the strengthening of the role of the United Nations,

Recalling especially resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which the General Assembly established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and resolution 31/28 of 29 November 1976,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee, 3/

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/32/33).

Noting that the Special Committee had examined in detail the observations received from Governments contained in the Secretary-General's analytical study concerning suggestions and proposals regarding the Charter of the United Nations and the strengthening of the role of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security, the development of co-operation among all nations and the promotion of the rules of international law in relations between States, 4/

Considering that the Special Committee has not yet completed the mandate given to it,

Reaffirming its support for the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

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 should continue its work in pursuance of the following tasks with which it is entrusted:
 - (a) To list the proposals which have been made or will be made in the Committee and to identify those which have awakened special interest;
 - (b) To examine proposals which have been made or will be made in the Committee with a view to according priority to the consideration of those areas on which general agreement is possible;
3. Requests the Special Committee to be mindful of the importance of reaching general agreement whenever it has significance for the outcome of its work;
4. Urges members of the Special Committee to participate fully in its work in fulfilment of the mandate entrusted to it;
5. Invites Governments to submit, or to bring up to date, their observations and proposals in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to render all assistance to the Special Committee, including the preparation of summary records of its meetings;
7. Requests the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-third 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".

4/ Ibid., annex II, document A/AC.182/L.2.