



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

21 February-1 March 2017

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Isaías **Medina** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

I. Introduction

1. The Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization was convened in accordance with General Assembly resolution [71/146](#) and met at United Nations Headquarters from 21 February to 1 March 2017.
2. In accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution [50/52](#), the Special Committee was open to all States Members of the United Nations.
3. The Special Committee held three meetings: the 284th to 286th, on 21 and 22 February and 1 March. The Working Group of the Whole, established at the 285th meeting, held three meetings, from 22 to 24 February.
4. The session was opened by Vasiliki Krasa (Cyprus), in her capacity as Vice-Chair of the previous session of the Special Committee.
5. At its 284th meeting, on 21 February, the Special Committee, bearing in mind the terms of the agreement regarding the election of officers reached at its session in 1981,¹ elected the following members of its Bureau:

Chair:

Ruslan **Varankov** (Belarus)

Vice-Chair:

Elsadig Ali Sayed **Ahmed** (Sudan)

Christian **Karstensen** (Denmark)

Shaharuddin **Onn** (Malaysia)

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Isaías **Medina** (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

¹ [A/36/33](#), para. 7.



6. The Bureau of the Special Committee also served as the Bureau of the Working Group of the Whole.

7. The Director of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs acted as Secretary of the Special Committee. The Principal Legal Officer of the Division acted as Assistant Secretary of the Special Committee. The Division provided substantive services for the Special Committee and the Working Group.

8. At its 284th meeting, the Special Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. Consideration of the questions referred to in General Assembly resolution [71/146](#), in accordance with the mandate of the Special Committee as set out in that resolution.
6. Adoption of the report.

9. General statements touching on all or several items were made at the 284th and 285th meetings. Their substance is reflected in the relevant sections of the present report.

10. With regard to the question of the maintenance of international peace and security, the Special Committee had before it all the related reports of the Secretary-General² and General Assembly resolution [64/115](#) and the annex thereto, entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations".

11. With regard to the question of the maintenance of international peace and security, the Special Committee also had before it a revised proposal submitted at the 1998 session by Libya with a view to strengthening the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security;³ a working paper⁴ submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela during the 2011 session, containing a further revised version of the proposal submitted by the same delegation at the 2010 session, entitled "Open-ended working group to study the proper implementation of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the functional relationship of its organs"; a further revised version, submitted at the 2014 session,⁵ of the working paper submitted by Belarus and the Russian Federation at the 2005 session on an advisory opinion to be requested from the International Court of Justice as to the legal consequences of the resort to the use of force by States without prior authorization by the Security Council, except in the exercise of the right to self-defence; a working paper submitted by Cuba on the strengthening of the role of the Organization and enhancing its effectiveness: adoption of recommendations;⁶ and a working paper submitted by Ghana at the 2016 session on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United

² [A/48/573-S/26705](#), [A/49/356](#), [A/50/60-S/1995/1](#), [A/50/361](#), [A/50/423](#), [A/51/317](#), [A/52/308](#), [A/53/312](#), [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](#), [A/61/304](#), [A/62/206](#) and Corr.1, [A/63/224](#), [A/64/225](#), [A/65/217](#), [A/66/213](#), [A/67/190](#), [A/68/226](#), [A/69/119](#) and [A/70/119](#).

³ See [A/53/33](#), para. 98.

⁴ See [A/66/33](#), annex.

⁵ See [A/69/33](#), para. 37.

⁶ See [A/67/33](#), annex.

Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes.⁷

12. With regard to the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes, the Special Committee had before it a revised proposal by the Russian Federation to recommend that the Secretariat be requested to establish a website dedicated to the peaceful settlement of disputes between States and to update the *Handbook on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States*.⁸ It also had before it a revised version of the proposal submitted on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement during the 2015 session entitled “Pacific settlement of disputes and its impact on the maintenance of peace”.⁹

13. At its 286th meeting, on 1 March, the Special Committee adopted its report on its 2017 session.

⁷ See [A/71/33](#), annex.

⁸ See [A/69/33](#), para. 52.

⁹ See [A/AC.182/L.146](#).