

the present time might be not only counter-productive but retrogressive. Delegations should instead direct their efforts towards creating an atmosphere conducive to acceptance of the reality of the *Ad Hoc* Committee.

17. The fact that the *Ad Hoc* Committee had been unable to enumerate proposals should not suggest that no specific ideas had been put before it. In that regard, it might be of some assistance if members of the Sixth Committee could address themselves to the specific suggestions contained in annex I of the report. For example, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Nigeria, Rwanda and Mexico had expressed definite views on decision-making and on the question of the veto in the Security Council, and Indonesia, New Zealand, Spain and Colombia had expressed views on Article 27, paragraph 3, of the Charter. Assignment of new roles to the Trusteeship Council had been mentioned by the Philippines, Colombia and Guyana. Some delegations had termed Articles 53 and 107 of the Charter "anachronistic". In the peace-keeping field, Guyana envisaged an international peace observation machinery, Colombia an international peace-keeping force, the Philippines international peace-keeping by interposition and Indonesia a standing commission to provide a choice of procedures for settling disputes. New Zealand had made a very thought-provoking proposal regarding Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Charter on admission of new States to the United Nations. Those examples were not intended to be exhaustive, but merely illustrative.

18. He also wished to mention in that connexion the significant views held by the socialist countries and most countries in the Group of Western European and Other States that the United Nations had stood the test of time

and that the best ways of strengthening it further were fuller utilization of existing provisions of the Charter and more faithful implementation of its decisions by Member States.

19. Members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, especially during the first week of its meetings, had all known what they wanted but had hardly known how to begin their work. He therefore suggested that, if the *Ad Hoc* Committee's mandate was continued, the Sixth Committee should address itself to recommendations and guidelines concerning its methods of work. In that connexion, he drew attention to annex II of the report, containing proposals by Mexico on the method of work. The *Ad Hoc* Committee had not had the opportunity to discuss those proposals.

20. He expressed the hope that the report, even if it fell short of depicting the *Ad Hoc* Committee's work with total accuracy, would at least help the Sixth Committee to guide that work.

21. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Committee that only seven meetings were scheduled for consideration of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee and five meetings for the agenda item concerning the strengthening of the role of the United Nations. It had been agreed that delegations could speak on the two items together if they wished, and he urged representatives to submit any draft resolutions as soon as possible in order to avoid more than one statement per delegation. He intended to close the list of speakers on both items some time during the current week.

*The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.*

## 1562nd meeting

Tuesday, 11 November 1975, at 3.20 p.m.

*Chairman:* Mr. Frank X. J. C. NJENGA (Kenya).

A/C.6/SR.1562

### AGENDA ITEMS 113 AND 29

**Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Charter of the United Nations (continued)** (A/10033, A/10102, A/10108, A/10113 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3, A/C.6/437)

**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: reports of the Secretary-General (continued)** (A/10218, A/10219, A/10255, A/10289, A/C.6/437).

1. Mr. BAQIR (Pakistan) said that his Government's views on the question of a review of the Charter of the United Nations had been expressed at the 2059th plenary meeting during the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

2. Consultations and discussions thus far indicated that opinion was sharply divided. Some States strongly held the view that the Charter had stood the test of time, had helped to avert a number of international conflicts and had succeeded in halting many others. Those States had argued that the validity and inherent strength of the Charter had been amply demonstrated over the past 30 years and that it had promoted co-operation between States at different levels of economic development. Other Member States were equally persuasive, however, in arguing for a revision of the Charter to take account of current realities; the membership of the United Nations had almost tripled since its establishment and the Charter should adapt to the concerns expressed by many of the new Members, most of whom were developing countries.

3. Still other States favoured procedural changes and amendments, since they felt that the Charter's essential

purpose—the maintenance of international peace and security—had been well served. A detailed study of the views of Member States indicated that the majority favoured a gradual process of examination of different provisions of the Charter and of their validity in the current situation, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security. His delegation was of the opinion that, despite its failures, of which Pakistan had had some tragic experience, the United Nations had also achieved some noteworthy results. Although it had not always lived up to its primary responsibility, the failure to do so could be attributed to the overriding pulls of national interests of some Member States, rather than to any inadequacies of the Charter. There had also been instances where some Member States had flouted either the Charter or the will of the international community and where the United Nations had failed to take even such action as allowed or called for by the Charter. Such instances were attributable not to the Charter, but to the lack of political will on the part of some Member States to respect the letter and spirit of the Charter.

4. Referring to the principle of unanimity of the five permanent members of the Security Council, he said that much of the disenchantment in that regard was due to instances when the veto had been used to thwart not only the nearly unanimous will of the international community but also the provisions of the Charter itself. The suggestions made concerning the scope or future of the veto could be attributed more to those instances of misuse than to any senseless obduracy on the part of the majority of Member States.

5. The Charter must be adapted to the changes which had taken place in the world political scene since 1945. His delegation was acutely aware of the very delicate nature of the problem, but was convinced that such changes, when agreed upon after detailed examination, would strengthen the basic principles of the Charter. Provision for such changes had been made in Article 108 of the Charter. The

changes that had already occurred in response to changing realities, such as the enlargement of the membership of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, had not eroded, let alone demolished, the balance achieved in the Charter. Nor would similar changes in the future lead to such a catastrophe.

6. While recognizing that proposals for changes in the existing balance among various organs of the United Nations must undergo serious scrutiny, his delegation felt that none of those changes should be rejected out of hand. It had carefully studied the views of the recent deliberations of the sixth and seventh special sessions of the General Assembly which reflected general concerns of the international community and in particular of the developing countries. Existing economic disparities generated much of the dissension and dissatisfaction, subjecting international relations to stress and strain. An attitude of understanding and co-operation with the countries of the third world, particularly in the economic field, would in the opinion of his delegation allay some of the concerns which inspired suggestions for changes in the existing order. That aspect was of increasing relevance to the Charter. There appeared to be a growing area of agreement regarding changes in the provisions relating to the economic structure.

7. His delegation suggested that, while the basic political structure of the Charter should be allowed to function without change for the time being, the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Charter of the United Nations should be asked to continue its deliberations in 1976 with special emphasis on areas of possible general agreement regarding revision or review.

8. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the list of speakers on items 113 and 29 should be closed at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 12 November.

*It was so agreed.*

*The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.*

## 1563rd meeting

Wednesday, 12 November 1975, at 10.40 a.m.

*Chairman:* Mr. Frank X. J. C. NJENGA (Kenya).

A/C.6/SR.1563

### AGENDA ITEMS 113 AND 29

Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Charter of the United Nations (*continued*) (A/10033, A/10102, A/10108, A/10113 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3, A/C.6/437)

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: reports of the Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/10218, A/10219, A/10255, A/10289, A/C.6/437)

1. Mr. DATCU (Romania) said that his country attached particular importance to the items under consideration, as it believed that the United Nations was an important instrument, available to mankind, for solving international problems and promoting the ideals which had inspired the establishment of the Organization. Since the founding of the United Nations, the world had undergone vast changes, new socialist countries had appeared which exerted a positive influence in the contemporary world, the colonial system had collapsed and dozens of new independent States had emerged. All those developments had introduced new characteristic features in contemporary international life,