

45/44. 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 resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,²¹

Bearing in mind the reports of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh,²² thirty-ninth,²³ fortieth,²⁴ forty-first,²⁵ forty-second,²⁶ forty-third,²⁷ forty-fourth²⁸ and forty-fifth sessions,²⁹ as well as the views and comments expressed on them by Member States,

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 on the work of its session held in 1990,³⁰

Expressing its satisfaction at the completion of the work on the draft document on rationalization of existing United Nations procedures,³¹ adopted by the General Assembly at its present session,³²

Mindful of the desirability of further work being done by the Special Committee in the field of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States,

Noting with appreciation the progress achieved in the elaboration of the draft handbook on the peaceful settlement of disputes between States,

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 will hold its next session from 4 to 22 February 1991;

3. Requests the Special Committee, at its session in 1991, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 below:

(a) To accord priority to the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context:

- (i) To endeavour to complete its consideration of the proposal on fact-finding by the United Nations in the field of the maintenance of international peace and security with a view to submit-

ting its conclusions, in an appropriate form, to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

- (ii) To consider the proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security that were submitted to the Special Committee during its session in 1990, as well as those which might be submitted to it at its session in 1991;

(b) To continue its work on the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States and, in this context:

- (i) To consider proposals relating to this question that might be submitted to the Special Committee;

- (ii) To consider the final text of the draft handbook on the peaceful settlement of disputes between States with a view to recommending its publication to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

4. Also requests the Special Committee to be mindful of the importance of reaching general agreement whenever that has significance for the outcome of its work;

5. Decides that the Special Committee shall accept the participation of observers of Member States in its meetings, including those of its working group;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to complete the work on the preparation of the draft handbook on the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, on the basis of the outline elaborated by the Special Committee and in the light of the views expressed in the course of the discussions in the Sixth Committee³³ and in the Special Committee, and to submit it, in its final form, to the Special Committee at its session in 1991;

7. Requests the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth 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".

*48th plenary meeting
28 November 1990*

45/45. Rationalization of existing United Nations procedures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/37 of 4 December 1989,

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 on the work of its session held in 1990,³⁰

Conscious of the need to discharge in the most efficient manner the functions incumbent upon it under the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Approves the conclusions of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the

²¹ Resolutions 31/28 of 29 November 1976, 32/45 of 8 December 1977, 33/94 of 16 December 1978, 34/147 of 17 December 1979, 35/164 of 15 December 1980, 36/122 of 11 December 1981, 37/114 of 16 December 1982, 38/141 of 19 December 1983, 39/88 of 13 December 1984, 40/78 of 11 December 1985, 41/83 of 3 December 1986, 42/157 of 7 December 1987, 43/170 of 9 December 1988 and 44/37 of 4 December 1989.

²² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/37/1).*

²³ *Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/39/1).*

²⁴ *Ibid., Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/40/1).*

²⁵ *Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/41/1).*

²⁶ *Ibid., Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/42/1).*

²⁷ *Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/43/1).*

²⁸ *Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/44/1).*

²⁹ *Ibid., Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/45/1).*

³⁰ *Ibid., Supplement No. 33 (A/45/33).*

³¹ *Ibid., para. 86.*

³² See resolution 45/45.

³³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Sixth Committee*, 10th to 17th and 34th meetings, and corrigendum.

Strengthening of the Role of the Organization as set forth in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Decides* that the conclusions referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be reproduced as an annex to its rules of procedure.

48th plenary meeting
28 November 1990

ANNEX

Conclusions of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization concerning the rationalization of existing United Nations procedures

1. Without prejudice to Article 18 of the Charter of the United Nations and with a view to facilitating the work of the United Nations, including, whenever possible, the adoption by the General Assembly of agreed texts of resolutions and decisions, informal consultations should be carried out with the widest possible participation of Member States.

2. When an electronic voting system is available for recording how votes were cast, a roll-call vote should as far as possible not be requested.

3. Before the end of each session of the General Assembly, the General Committee should, in the light of the experience it has acquired during that session, consider drawing up its observations on the organization of the work of the session, with a view to facilitating the organization of the work of future sessions of the Assembly.

4. The agenda of the General Assembly should be simplified by grouping or merging, to the extent possible, related items and, where it is appropriate for discussion of a particular item, by setting an interval of more than a year between the discussions on it. For this purpose, the Chairman of the Main Committee concerned or, as appropriate, the President of the Assembly, should undertake consultations with delegations.

5. The General Committee should consider, at the beginning of each session of the General Assembly, recommending that certain Main Committees should meet in sequential order, taking into account such matters as the number of meetings required for the consideration of the questions with which they are charged at that session, the organization of the work of the whole session and the problem of participation of smaller delegations.

6. In making recommendations as to how agenda items should be allocated to the Main Committees and to the plenary Assembly, the General Committee should ensure the best use of the expertise of the Committees.

7. When the General Assembly considers whether it needs to establish subsidiary organs, in accordance with Article 22 of the Charter, it should give careful consideration as to whether the subject-matter in question could be dealt with by existing organs, including its Main Committees and their working groups. Subsidiary organs should seek constantly to improve their procedures and methods of work in order to ensure effective consideration of questions allocated to them by the Assembly.

8. The dates and length of the sessions of bodies of the General Assembly that meet inter-sessionally should be determined as soon as possible by the Assembly, as appropriate, following advice from the Committee on Conferences, on the proposal of the Secretary-General. The Assembly should take account of the past experience, the state of current work in regard to the mandate given to the body in question and the need to avoid as far as possible overlapping meetings of bodies that deal with subject-matter of a similar nature.

9. Informal consultations about the work of bodies of the General Assembly that meet inter-sessionally should continue to be held in advance of the sessions of such bodies in order to facilitate the conduct of their sessions, especially as regards the composition of the bureau and the organization of work.

10. Resolutions should request observations from States or reports by the Secretary-General in so far as they are likely to facilitate the implementation of the resolutions or the continued examination of the question.

45/46. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,³⁴

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations³⁵ and the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations³⁶ and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

Welcoming the increased interest shown by Member States in participating in the work of the Committee,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 69 of its report;

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interests of the United Nations and all Member States, and expresses the hope that the host country will continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country and hopes that outstanding problems raised at the meetings of the Committee will be duly resolved in a spirit of co-operation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Urges* the host country, in the light of the consideration by the Committee of travel regulations issued by the host country, to continue to bear in mind its obligations to facilitate the functioning of the United Nations and the missions accredited to it;

5. *Stresses* the importance of a positive perception of the work of the United Nations, and urges that efforts be continued to build up public awareness by explaining, through all available means, the importance of the role played by the United Nations and the missions accredited to it in the strengthening of international peace and security;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

7. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

48th plenary meeting
28 November 1990

³⁴ *Ibid.*, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 26 (A/45/26).

³⁵ Resolution 22 A (I).

³⁶ See resolution 169 (II).