



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

18–26 February 2020

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Alis Lungu (Romania)

II. Maintenance of international peace and security

F. Consideration of the further revised working paper submitted by Ghana on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes

1. The further revised working paper submitted by Ghana at the 2019 session of the Special Committee ([A/74/33](#), annex II) was referred to during the general exchange of views held at the 293rd and 294th meetings of the Special Committee, on 18 February, and was considered at the 1st meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 19 February.

2. The sponsor delegation reiterated that the eight proposed guidelines contained in the further revised working paper were aimed at providing a basis for discussions on the subject. It was neither possible nor appropriate to devise global guidelines for all regional and subregional arrangements or agencies because the different levels and modalities of cooperation and characteristics of such arrangements or agencies differed considerably. The goal of the proposed guidelines was rather to identify general principles that could be applied to the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional or subregional organizations or arrangements. Towards that end, the sponsor delegation had established a working group at the level of its Ministry of Foreign Affairs to review the paper, taking into account comments made by other delegations. The sponsor delegation invited delegations to provide further suggestions and comments, with a view to continuing the consideration of the proposed guidelines intersessionally and at the 2021 session of the Special Committee.

3. Several delegations expressed support for the efforts to finalize the further revised working paper. The proposal was considered to be useful in filling gaps in the work of the United Nations regarding coordination with regional organizations or



arrangements. It was suggested that the scope of the proposal should be narrowed to address specific gaps, and that the work of Special Committee on the proposal should not duplicate efforts in other forums, in particular with regard to the financing of peacekeeping operations. It was also noted that the proposed guidelines might be more closely related to the peaceful settlement of disputes than to international peace and security.

4. The sponsor delegation was requested to clarify the phrase “a framework for cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations or arrangements to ensure that all parties fulfil their responsibilities” referred to in the seventh proposed guideline, given that those responsibilities were to a large extent already defined in Chapter VIII of the Charter. Furthermore, the nexus between such a “framework for cooperation” and the “partnership agreements” referred to in the eighth proposed guideline was questioned. It was also proposed that, when it came to relationships between the United Nations and regional organizations or arrangements, priority should be given to regional organizations from the relevant continent. The sponsor delegation was also requested to provide further information on the role of the Security Council and of civil society in the proposed guidelines.
