



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
18 February 2021

Original: English

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

16–24 February 2021

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Sarah Weiss Ma'udi (Israel)

III. Peaceful settlement of disputes

C. Commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes

1. During the general exchange of views held at the 297th and 298th meetings of the Special Committee, on 16 February, and at the 2nd meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 17 February, many delegations recalled the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, which had been approved by the General Assembly in 1982 and annexed to its resolution [37/10](#). Recognition of and appreciation for the important role that the Special Committee had played in its formulation were expressed. Many delegations stated that it remained an important document produced by the Special Committee. It was pointed out that that was the first time that a text had reflected the development of a comprehensive plan and the consolidation of the legal framework for the peaceful settlement of international disputes, building upon and promoting general international law, the Charter and other key instruments related to the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

2. At the 2nd meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, the representative of the Philippines introduced a proposal for a recommendation on the fortieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes ([A/AC.182/L.157](#)). The sponsor delegation explained that the text was based principally on General Assembly resolution [67/95](#), adopted on 14 December 2012 to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration, and encouraged the United Nations to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the Declaration, with the cost of the commemoration to be met from voluntary contributions. The sponsor delegation also stated that the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary would serve to highlight the normative and political significance of the Declaration and the commitment of States to the peaceful settlement of international disputes.



3. General support was expressed for the proposal to recommend the commemoration of the Manila Declaration. It was noted that the Declaration deserved renewed attention.

4. The Special Committee recommends the following draft resolution for the consideration of the General Assembly with a view to its adoption:

Fortieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes

The General Assembly,

Acknowledging that 15 November 2022 will mark the fortieth anniversary of the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/10 of 15 November 1982, which was adopted without a vote,

Recalling that the Manila Declaration was negotiated on the initiative of Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, Sierra Leone and Tunisia and on the basis of a text prepared by the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization,

Recalling also that the Manila Declaration was the first instrument adopted by the General Assembly as a result of the work of the Special Committee,

Recalling further that the Manila Declaration is a landmark declaration on the peaceful settlement of international disputes, building upon the Charter of the United Nations, in particular its Article 33,

Recalling that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations,

1. *Recognizes* the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes as a concrete accomplishment of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and welcomes the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration;

2. *Reiterates its call* to all States to observe and promote in good faith the Manila Declaration in the peaceful settlement of their international disputes;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations and all Member States to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Manila Declaration through appropriate activities;

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution shall be met from voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders for observance.