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Draft report

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IV. *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*

1. Reference was made to the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* during the general exchange of views held at the 308th and 309th meetings of the Special Committee, on 20 February, and at the 2nd meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 22 February.

2. During the general exchange of views and in the Working Group of the Whole, delegations commended the Secretariat on its continuing efforts to update the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* and to eliminate the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory*. The significance of the two publications in providing analytical studies of the application and interpretation of the Articles of the Charter was recalled. Several delegations noted with concern that the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory*, in particular volume III, had not been eliminated and called upon the Secretary-General to address the issue effectively and as a priority. The Secretariat was commended for making the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* available electronically and accessible on their respective websites. The need to publish the two publications in all official languages of the United Nations was noted.

3. At the 2nd meeting of the Working Group, the representatives of the Secretariat gave a briefing on the status of the preparation of the *Repertoire* and the *Repertory*.

4. With regard to the status of the *Repertoire*, further to the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/78/296), it was reported that significant progress continued to be made in the preparation of the publication, with a focus on the simultaneous completion of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth supplements, covering the years 2022 and 2023, respectively. More specifically, it was noted that the advance version of the twenty-fifth supplement had been completed and posted online in November 2023, only one month behind schedule. It was also reported that the preparation of the twenty-sixth supplement was well under way and



that the advance version of that edition was planned to be uploaded during the second quarter of the year, as each part was completed, with a view to having the full publication available online by October 2024. It was also noted that the preparatory work on the twenty-seventh supplement, covering the year 2024, had commenced.

5. With regard to innovation and the use of technology as a means of presenting the information available on the Security Council, it was reported that the Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch of the Security Council Affairs Division continued to maintain and regularly update 11 distinct online information tools. At the beginning of 2024, the most recent edition of the annual *Highlights of Security Council Practice*, covering the year 2023, was released. Furthermore, the monthly newsletter entitled “UN Security Council in Review” continued to be issued.

6. It was further reported that, in June 2023, the *Interactive Handbook of the Working Methods of the Security Council* had been launched, with the support of the Permanent Mission of Japan. It was noted that the *Interactive Handbook* represented a new online version of the *Handbook on the Working Methods of the Security Council* (also known as the “Green Handbook”), which had been originally published in hard copy by Japan in 2006. It was underlined that the new online version featured both a search engine and index, which had the objective of substantially simplifying the amount of time it took to consult relevant sources and become acquainted with the Council’s fast-evolving procedures and practices.

7. Gratitude was expressed for the enhanced support of Member States through their voluntary contributions to the trust fund for updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*. It was noted that the resources under the trust fund had made it possible to hire temporary staff to assist in the research and drafting of the publication, as well as to draw on editorial and information technology expertise to improve efficiency in its preparation. It was emphasized that the trust fund had been instrumental to the efforts to overcome a decades-long backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire*, thus making the rich historical and contemporary practices of the Security Council more readily available. The generous contributions made in 2023 were noted. At the same time, it was noted that the levels and overall predictability of funding remained a concern.

8. It was further recalled that the 2024 appeal for contributions to the trust fund had been launched with the following objectives: maintaining the annual publication schedule of the *Repertoire* for the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh supplements and avoiding a backlog; optimizing data collection to facilitate the delivery of real-time information to Member States on developments in the Council; expanding the scope of existing datasets, such as the Field Missions Dashboard, to ensure the consistency and coherence of information presented.

9. Concerning the status of the *Repertory*, a briefing was given on the main developments since the issuance of the most recent report on the *Repertory* and *Repertoire*.

10. First, with regard to new studies in preparation, it was reported that, with regard to the call made upon the Secretary-General to address, effectively and on a priority basis, the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory* (General Assembly resolution [78/111](#), para. 17), two studies pertaining to that volume were in preparation by the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa, on Articles 24 and 25 of the Charter (for Supplement No. 12 (2016–2020)). It was noted that the Faculty was also in the process of drafting and researching five additional studies, on Articles 10 and 18 for volume II of Supplements Nos. 11 (2010–2015) and 12 and on Article 20 for volume II of Supplement No. 11, as well as a study on Article 94 for volume VI of Supplement No. 12. That brought the total number of studies in preparation to eight.

11. It was also noted that one study on Article 13 (1) (a) (second part of the sentence) for volume II of Supplement No. 12 had been reviewed by the author department (various divisions within the Office of Legal Affairs) and was now in the process of being finalized. Furthermore, it was reported that one study on Articles 104 and 105 for volume VI of Supplement No. 11 remained under review by its author department, the Office of Legal Affairs.
 12. Second, with regard to the participation of academic institutions in the research and drafting of studies for the *Repertory*, gratitude was expressed to the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa for its continued support.
 13. The attention of delegations was also drawn to the call for contributions to the trust fund to eliminate the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory*. In that regard, it was noted that, as at 31 December 2023, the Fund's available balance was \$87,303.
 14. Delegations were once again invited to increase the interest of academic institutions in their countries or regions in participating in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory*, while taking into account the importance of geographical diversity in that respect.
 15. Following the reports by the representatives of the Secretariat, several delegations noted the efforts made to update the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, while reiterating their calls upon the Secretary-General to address the backlog in the preparation of the *Repertory* effectively and as a priority.
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