(Check against delivery)
22 October 2015

SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

70th SESSION

Briefing by the Chief of the Security Council Practices and Charter
Research Branch/Security Council Affairs Division/DP A, on the
Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

1. I am grateful for this opportunity to update members of the Sixth Committee on the status of the Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council and related activities. Since Member States have the report of the Secretary-General on the Repertory and the Repertoire before them (A/70/295), I shall be brief today.

2. Distinguished delegates, in 2015 the Practices and Charter Research Branch of the Security Council Affairs Division of the Department of Political Affairs continued to make good progress in the updating of the Repertoire. The Branch simultaneously

makthe

18th

mak19th makSupplements

Repertoire in order to expedite its coverage of the contemporary practice and
procedure of the Security Council.

3. This past year, the Branch focuskd completing the drafting of the 18 on th makSupplement maktom

of the Supplement been postkd online, we expect to b

made available in its advance version on the Repertoire website towards the beginning of 2016.

4. Actual drafting of the 19th Supplement, covering the two-year period from 2014 to 2015, will commence in early 2016. Groundwork for this Supplement has been systematically laid down during the last two years through recording the most contemporary practice of the Security Council in an internal database.

5. Progress in the preparation of the Repertoire is mostly due to efficiency-enhancing initiatives, such as the specialized training of staff, the review of editorial
processes, automation of data collection, increased use of internal databases and
the continuous up-dating of the Repertoire drafting guidelines. However, future progress will very much depend on the availability of resources which I will address later.

6. A few words about the publishing status of the drafted supplements of the Repertoire. I am glad to report that all English-language versions of the Repertoire up to the 16th Supplement have been published. The 17th Supplement, covering the period 2010-2011, has now been submitted for editing and indexing. All translated versions of the 12~o 16th Supplements are expected to be available electronically in 2016. As previously reported, we continue to work with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) to shorten the time lag between the completion of a Supplement and its eventual publication in all six official languages.

7. Mr. Chairman, during the last year, upon request, the Branch continued to respond to requests for information from Member States, United Nations staff, students,

2

academic scholars and researchers on questions relating to the current and past practice of the Council and its subsidiary bodies.

8. I invite you to explore frequently the Repertoire section of the Security Council website where we regularly post new studies. We have improved the search engine of the Repertoire website in the framework of the overall revamping of websites across the Organization with a view to aiding researchers and other interested persons in exploring the wealth of information on practices of the Security Council contained in the Repertoire. The website also offers a broad range of research tools such as tables and graphs featuring the mandates of all current peacekeeping operations and special political missions, as well as the relevant provisions of decisions of the Council in relation to cross-cutting agenda items, namely, Children and armed conflict, Women and peace and security, and the Protection of civilians. They enhance the ability of researchers and others interested in the work of the Council to analyse systematically the practice of the Council in the areas mentioned.

9. Aside from its work on the Repertoire, the Branch, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 69/122 contributed to addressing the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the Repertory by submitting all studies on various Charter Articles for the period 2000 to 2009. I understand that OLA has made these studies available on the Repertory website.

10. Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, the progress made in the preparation and publication of the Repertoire as well as the updating of the Repertoire section of the Council website would not have been possible without contributions received to the Trust Fund for the Updating of the Repertoire. In this context, we are truly

3

grateful for the contributions made to the Trust Fund recently by Angola, Benin and Turkey. Furthermore, we are very grateful to China for their recent sponsorship of an Associate Expert and look forward to his valuable contribution to advancing our work.

11.Nonetheless, the Branch faces a heavy workload in sustaining a regular publication schedule for the Repertoire to prevent new backlogs from forming, in updating the Repertoire section of the Council website in all languages and in continuing

contito