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STATEMENT
by Representative of the Russian Federation
in the Sixth Committee of the 68th Session of the General Assembly
on Agenda Item: Report of the UN Special Committee
on the Charter of the United Nations
and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

11 October, 2013

Mr. Chair,

The Russian Federation supports the work of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. We believe that it is able to address complex legal issues associated with the work of the Organization on the basis of generally recognized principles and norms of the International Law. The Committee is making its contribution to the Rule of Law at the international level that has been recently discussed in such a detail over the last few days.

Criticisms have been voiced once again at the spring session of the Special Committee regarding the slowing down of the pace of work of this body. We partially share these concerns. Indeed, at the current stage the special Committee is living through a not so much active stage in its history. Therefore, we do not deny

the need for a certain balanced optimization of its work. However we cannot agree with the proposals to totally switch the Committee to a "sleeping" mode. It goes without saying that the Special Committee should continue its work on a regular basis and maintain its ability to take up examination any substantial proposals within its competence when necessary.

Let us recall in this connection that the Special Committee has had for quite a while a joint Russia-Belarus proposal in its backlog on requesting an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal effects of the use of force by the states without prior authorization by the Security Council. Unfortunately we have not been able so far to unwind this issue on a consensus basis. We believe however that this proposal has a potential.

In conclusion, we would like to note that the important work conducted by the UN Secretariat to prepare the Report of the Practice of the United Nations Organs and the Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council. It is our understanding that the Secretariat, while drafting the handbook on the practice of the Security Council, will fully comply with relevant regulations contained in the report of the Secretary General, dated 18 September 1952.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.