

**United Nations General Assembly | Sixth Committee**

The report submitted pursuant to this request outlined the historical background of the regulations and elaborated on seven areas for consideration by the General Assembly. The report also discussed possible means of increasing the efficiency of the registration and publication process and enhancing the role played by the Treaty Section in supporting Member States in this area. During the 72<sup>nd</sup> session, during its debate under a different agenda item, this Committee did not have time - yet again - to consider this issue in depth. But the Assembly did stress that the regulations should be useful and relevant to Member States.

Our short-term objective under the current agenda item is to conclude, this year, a review of the regulations. This exercise could serve, *inter alia*, to clarify and simplify the procedural requirements for registration; to facilitate the further use of electronic resources in the registration process; to enhance efficiency; to consider whether the current publication policy meets the needs of Member States and to modernize the methods for disseminating information on registered treaties. So as to facilitate this review, a draft resolution will be circulated, containing proposed updates to the regulations in an annex, to serve as the basis for informal consultations. We encourage all States to engage in this process.

Mr. Chairman,

The debate under this agenda item could also trigger an exchange of views among Member States regarding their treaty-making practice, and serve as a platform for the identification of trends and the sharing of best practices in treaty-making. If the membership so desires, in future sessions this item could also provide a space for discussion on other treaty law-related topics, such as the Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman,

This is the first time that a new agenda item has been included in the agenda of the Sixth Committee at the request of Member States since 2009. As co-proponents, we consider this to be an opportunity for the revitalization of the work of the Sixth Committee. A review of the regulations is both a relevant outcome and a low-hanging fruit. Through constructive and focused dialogue, we are convinced that the General Assembly will be able to conclude it this year.

Thank you.