Joint statement of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia on agenda item 82 Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization 20 October 2023

Mr. Chair,

I have the honor of speaking on behalf of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and my own country Georgia.

The Charter of the United Nations is the core international instrument with universal character, mandating the Member States to guarantee international peace and security and uphold international law. Therefore, all states are obliged to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations

three countries once again emphasized that in order to achieve the above aims, the UN Charter offers a wide range of means to peacefully settle international disputes, including through regional arrangements and agencies, as envisaged in Article 52 of the UN Charter.

We would like to express our disappointment that for already the second year in a row, this March, no substantial part of the Report was adopted by the Special Committee on the Charter, due to the fact that one of the delegations refused to reflect the discussions of the debate in the report. In particular, the Russian Federation has abused the consensual practice of the report adoption para by para, by excluding all the paragraphs that constituted the vital part of the Report and were essential for our three countries.

In these circumstances it is imperative to

What the world has witnessed in Ukraine is the repetition of aggression policy started in Georgia and the Republic of Moldova in early 1990s, which continued with the full-scale military aggression against Georgia in 2008 and attempts to forcibly change the borders of a sovereign state in Europe and subsequent occupation of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions of Georgia. This represents a clear confirmation that impunity encourages further violations of the UN Charter. Up to this day, despite mediation, as well as diplomatic and judicial efforts, Russian military troops are still illegally stationed on the territories of the Republic of Moldova and Georgia. Furthermore, Russia extended its

The statements regarding the deployment of Russian naval base in the occupied Abkhazia region further exacerbate the volatile security environment not only in Georgia but in the wider Black Sea region.

Any military occupation, however temporary, resulting from the unlawful use of force, constitutes an act of aggression pursuant to UNGA Resolution 3314 of 14 December 1974. Georgia, facing ongoing military aggression by Russia, has been adhering to the peaceful conflict resolution policy, based on two main pillars de-occupation of the Georgian regions on the one hand, and reconciliation and confidence building between the communities divided by the occupation lines, on the other

In conclusion Mr. Chair,

Ukraine, Republic of Moldova and Georgia firmly believe that the United Nations should continue taking solid actions and decisions to respond to the threat of international peace and security while the people of our three countries still remain under threat and suffer from the use of force against their sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence. The UN Charter and its fundamental principles should be applied in a conscious and responsible manner. Therefore, the adoption of a comprehensive Report by the Committee is one of the key enablers of addressing the violations of the United Nations Charter and upholding the efforts of a peaceful settlement of disputes.

I thank you!