

NOVEMBER 12th, 2024

DRAFT STATEMENT

**BY H.E. AMBASSADOR FRANCISCO JOSÉ DA CRUZ, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF SPECIAL POLITICAL MISSIONS - SPMs (ITEM
52)**

4TH COMMISSION

**Madame Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,**

Angola aligns itself with the statement delivered by Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

My delegation welcomes the Secretary-General's Report on the Comprehensive Review of Special Political Missions (SPMs) and reiterates that SPMs are essential tools for preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, and sustaining peace.

The current global peace and security challenges highlight the importance of building a new generation of Special Political Missions for maintaining international peace and security.

Action 21 of the Pact of the Future recognizes that peacekeeping operations and Special Political Missions are indispensable tools for making the world a more peaceful place for all and urgently need to adapt to face an increasingly complex reality.

SPMs have helped to bring disputing parties back to the negotiation table, prevent conflict escalation, facilitate negotiations to bridge differences and bring together actors to reach peaceful solutions.

Special political missions have also supported the implementation of peace agreements and assisted host Governments in advancing political processes and sustaining peace.

In this regard, we commend the work carried out by the United Nations Office for Central Africa, in particular as the secretariat of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, which provided a framework for confidence building, conflict prevention, and resolution for the States in the subregion.

We also commend the work of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region on implementing the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region.

As the current Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, Angola reiterates its commitment to continue working with countries in the region to prevent, manage, and peacefully settle disputes and conflicts and promote peace and democracy in Africa.

Distinguished Delegates,

Over the years, the Special Political Missions have been actively supporting Member States in enhancing preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, and building and sustaining peace.

We recognize that the use of digital technologies is important to advancing the mandates of special political missions for conflict prevention, peacemaking, and peacebuilding and enhancing the inclusion of women, young people, and other actors in peace processes.

Many Special Political Missions operate in environments in which hate speech, disinformation, and misinformation increase polarization. In addition, prejudice and violence caused by the misuse of digital technologies hinder their work in the field of preventive diplomacy work.

Angola recognizes the challenges faced by the SPMs in developing their activities, particularly financial issues. Their integrated work with the United Nations, UN country teams, and resident coordinators support the national and international priorities

In this regard, we commend all SPMs for their efforts in promoting peace and stability in different contexts and challenging environments.

We encourage cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in establishing joint Special Political Missions. And encourage equal participation of women, as well as youth participation in alignment of the implementation of Resolution 1325.

Distinguished Delegates,

To conclude, we reiterate the Republic of Angola's commitment to multilateralism and emphasize that preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding must be interconnected in national and international Agendas to implement the aspirations for a world free of conflict.

Thank you.