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APR 28 2015

PERMANENT MISSION OF SIERRA LEONE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**PERMANENT MISSION OF  
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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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UN/SC/404

April 22, 2015

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 forwarding your talking points and requesting Member States to populate the Framework document which you had disseminated at the intergovernmental negotiations meeting held on 11 and 12 February, 2015.

In view thereof, I am pleased to forward on behalf of the African Union Committee of Ten on United Nations Security Council Reform, inputs of the African Union Member States into the Framework document.

This preliminary input represents the Common African Position on United Nations Security Council reform as contained in the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration.

We take note of your letter of 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2015. We also acknowledge with appreciation your reference to the principles that will govern the intergovernmental negotiations.

The African Union Committee of Ten remains available for any clarification or further elaboration of the Common African Position submitted in the attached Framework document. I confirm your Excellency that we will continue to engage in the intergovernmental negotiations in good faith and in the interest of moving the process forward in accordance with decisions 62/567, 63/565 and 64/568.

Please accept Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Vandi C. Minah  
Permanent Representative  
Coordinator of the AU Committee of Ten  
on United Nations Security Council Reform

H.E. Mr. E. Courtenay Rattray  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
of Jamaica to the United Nations  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations  
New York

## Frame work Document

### Inputs Submitted by the Committee of Ten African States on UN Security Council Reform on Behalf of the African Union Member States

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

**a) categories of membership:**

- Permanent members - a total of **(11) seats; with no less than two permanent seats for Africa**

- The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America
- *[The selection of Africa's representatives to be done by the African Union for submission to the General Assembly for election]*

- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - a total of **(not less than 15) seats; with a total of 5 non-permanent seats for Africa**

- *[In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for seats. .. The selection of Africa's representatives to be done by the African Union for submission to the General Assembly for election]*

- *[Any new category. .. ]* - *[In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats ... ]*

**b) Regional representation:**

- *[A reform that will ensure Africa's legitimate right to fair and equitable geographical representation in the Security Council: taking into account the principles, objectives and ideals of the UN Charter for a fairer world based on universalism, equity and regional balance within the UN system]*

**c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council- a total of (not less than 26 )seats**

**(ii) Working methods of the Council:** - *[Africa favours a more accessible, democratic, representative, accountable, and more effective Security Council responding to the exigencies of the time and accordingly deems it imperative, inter alia:*

1. To increase the number of public meetings, in accordance with articles 31 and 32 of the Charter and that these meetings should provide real opportunities to take into account the views and contributions of the wider membership of the UN, particularly non-Council members whose affairs are under discussion of the Council;

2. To allow for briefings by the Special envoys or Representatives of the Secretary General and the UN Secretariat to take place in public meetings, unless in exceptional circumstances;
3. To enhance its relationship with the UN Secretariat and troop contributing countries (TCC), including through a sustained, regular and timely interaction. Meetings with TCCs should be held not only in the drawing up of mandates, but also in their implementation, when considering a change in, or renewal of, or completion of a mission mandate, or when there is a rapid deterioration of the situation on the ground. In this context, the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations should involve TCCS more frequently and intensively in its deliberations, especially in the very early stages of mission planning;
4. To uphold the primacy of and respect of the Charter in connection with its functions and powers, and in that regard to desist from the practice of engaging and initiating formal and informal discussions on the situation in any Member state of the United Nations or on any issue that does not constitute a threat to international peace and security, and contrary to the provisions of Article 24 of the Charter;
5. To establish its subsidiary organs in accordance with the letter and spirit of the UN Charter, and that these organs should function in a manner that would provide adequate and timely information on their activities to the general UN membership;
6. To avoid any attempts to use the Security Council to pursue national political agendas and to ensure the necessity of non-selectivity and impartiality in the work of the Council, and the need for the Council to strictly keep within the powers and functions accorded to it by the Member States under the UN Charter;
7. To refrain from resorting to Chapter VII of the Charter as an umbrella for addressing issues that do not necessarily pose a threat to international peace and security, and to fully utilize the provisions of other relevant Chapters, where appropriate, including Chapters VI and Chapter VIII, before invoking Chapter VII which should be a measure of last resort, if necessary;
8. To avoid any recourse to the imposition or prolongation of sanctions or their extensions by the Security Council against any State under the pretext or with the aim of achieving the political objectives of one or a few States, rather than the general interest of the international community;
9. To formalize the Rules of Procedure of the Security Council, which have remained provisional for more than 60 years, in order to improve on its transparency and accountability]

**d) The question of the veto:**

- [Africa strongly believes that the veto should be abolished but so long as it exists, it should be extended to all members of the permanent category of the Security Council, who must in this regard enjoy all prerogatives and privileges of permanent membership in the permanent category including the right of the veto as a matter of common justice]

**c) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:**

- [It is Africa's position that the two organs must work closely together within their respective sphere in the search for solutions to the plethora of challenges confronting the international community while seeking to foster harmonious interaction and ensuring cooperative relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly without encroaching on each other's mandates as spelt out in the Charter and to preserve the constitutional balance between them, and further proposes the following inter alia:

1. to address the growing concerns by Member states of the gradual encroachment by the Security Council on and the erosion of the authority and mandate of the General Assembly by fully and speedily implementing the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 51/193, 58/126 and 59/313;
2. Security Council's submission in keeping with Articles 24(3) of the United Nations Charter, more comprehensive and analytical reports to the General Assembly, consisting among other things, of assessment of the work of the Council, views expressed by its members as well as the rationale for taking action on issues before it;
3. Security Council's submission in accordance with Articles 15 and 24 of the United Nations Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the General Assembly for its consideration and on issues of current international concern;
4. Ensuring that members are fully informed of the nature and scope of the Security Council's activities not only through full informative press releases, but also by effectively communicating their views on issues of concern taken by Council in its informal consultations. Convening more formal meetings and informal consultations involving the interested parties prior to the adoption of decisions to allow for wider participation;
5. The provisions of effective and timely flow and exchange of information between the two organs particularly through frequent and regular consultations between the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to review work plans and consult on specific issues of mutual concern. Such meetings can enhance more direct and dynamic exchanges between the two organs;

6. Ensuring that the role and authority of the General Assembly including on questions relating to international peace and security be respected and to also guarantee the unfettered application of Articles 10-14 and 35 of the Charter and where appropriate Rules 7 to 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, which enable the General Assembly to take urgent action; all of which provide a strong basis for the General Assembly to assert itself and prevent the erosion of its powers by the Security Council.]

• Any other related matters: • [ ]

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<sup>1</sup> *The C-10 of the African Union Member States welcome with appreciation the consistent support for and alignment of the L-69 with the Common African Position. The C-10 will continue to be committed to engaging with the L-69 and all like-minded groups with the view to narrowing down on areas of divergence and together create the necessary momentum for decisive progress.*

## Framework Document

### *The United Kingdom*

**Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.**

- a) Categories of membership:
- Permanent members
    - The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America, Brazil, Germany, India, Japan, and permanent African representation
    - The manner in which new permanent members are chosen would depend on the outcome of discussions about the scope of enlargement
  - Non-permanent members with a two-year term
    - We support moderate expansion in the number of non-permanent seats
- b) Regional representation: We do not support proposals for regional representation on the Security Council as this would be at odds with the fundamental tenets of the UN Charter, which makes clear that admission to the UN is extended to individual states.

New members to the Security Council should be picked so as to make it more broadly representative of the modern world. Still, it is for the UN membership to designate new permanent members and to elect all non-permanent members.

- c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council
- We support an enlarged Security Council to a level that will not negatively impact upon its effectiveness and ability to carry out its responsibilities as set out in the Charter.
- (ii) Working methods of the Council
- We believe that this is a separate discussion from the question of enlargement and, moreover, a matter for consideration by the Security Council, not the General Assembly
- d) The question of the veto:
- There should be no expansion of the veto to new permanent members.
- e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly
- We should continue to work towards improving cooperation between these two important organs so that the UN can function as effectively as possible.

No. 183 / 2015

The Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform, H.E. Ambassador Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica, and has the honour to refer to the letter conveying the Framework Document for inputs from Member States within the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform.

Chile appreciates the efforts to revitalize the reform process of the Security Council, currently under your Chairmanship. In this regard, Chile is in favor of increasing the membership in the Security Council in its two categories, Permanent and Non-permanent, and supports in this regard regional representation, although determining exact numbers at this stage might limit States' negotiation ability.

Chile maintains a flexible position and promotes consensus within the General Assembly, supporting and encouraging greater transparency in the working methods of the Security Council, without extending the use of the veto to any new permanent member of an enlarged Security Council.

The Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiation on Security Council reform the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 16 April 2015



To  
H.E. Ambassador Courtenay Rattray  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations  
On Security Council Reform  
United Nations  
New York

Framework Document  
*As Populated by Member States*

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

a) Categories of membership:

- Permanent members - a total of (...)seats
  - The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America
  - ***[Chile supports an increase in the Permanent members of the Security Council but consider that at this point, establishing exact numbers or procedures might limit States' negotiation ability. Chile remains flexible on the number of new seats]***
- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - a total of (...) seats
  - ***[Chile supports an increase in the Non-Permanent members of the Security Council. Determining exact numbers or procedures might limit States' negotiation ability. Chile remains flexible on the number of new seats.]***
- [Any new category...]
  - *[In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats...]*

b) Regional representation:

- ***[Chile supports the regional representation on an enlarge Security Council with the goal of promoting consensus within the General Assembly.]***

c) (i)The size of an enlarged Security Council- a total of (...)seats

(ii)Working methods of the Council:

- ***[Chile supports and encourages greater transparency in the working methods of the Security Council and maintains a flexible position with the goal of promoting consensus regarding different initiatives on this matter]***



- d) The question of the veto:
  - [Chile does not support the extension of the veto to the new members of an enlarged Security Council]
  
- e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:
  - [Chile maintains a flexible position and promotes consensus within the General Assembly]
  
- Any other related matters:
  - [Chile maintains a flexible position and promotes consensus within the General Assembly]



PHÁI ĐOÀN THƯỜNG TRỰC  
CỘNG HÒA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM  
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No: 117/HC-2015

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform and, with reference to the latter's letter dated 26 March 2015 requesting Member States to populate the framework document on Security Council Reform, has the honour to advise that Viet Nam supports the reform of the Security Council to ensure its representativeness, democracy, transparency and effectiveness, so that the Council can better fulfill its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

The Mission of Viet Nam has the further honor to attach herewith the Government of Viet Nam's response on the issues detailed in the above-mentioned letter of the Chair.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform the assurances of its highest consideration.

*New York, 21 April 2015*



**Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations  
on Security Council Reform**  
New York

**ANNEX**  
**Framework Document**  
*Viet Nam's inputs*

a) Categories of membership:

- The Security Council should be expanded in both categories of permanent and non-permanent members with a view to ensuring democracy, representativeness and effectiveness of the Council and the adequate representation of developing countries in both categories, commensurate with their proportion in the membership of the United Nations.

b) Regional representation:

- Additional members of the enlarged Council, including permanent and non-permanent seats, should be allocated in such a manner that would ensure equitable representation in the Council.
- Increase in the membership of the Council for each region should correspond to their respective proportion in the membership of the United Nations.

c) i) Size of the Council:

- The Size of the Council should ensure the aforementioned criteria for categories of membership and regional representation.

ii) Working methods of the Council:

- The working methods of the Council should be amended so as to ensure increased democracy, transparency, and effectiveness.
- Consultations between Council and non-Council members should be strengthened.
- The Council should conduct more public meetings, and the practice of holding closed meetings should be restricted.
- Non-Council members should be given access to the work of the Council, including its documentation and records.
- Consultation with and participation of Troop Contributing Countries in the work of the Council related to United Nations peacekeeping missions should be enhanced and institutionalised.
- The work of the Council should prioritise the utilization of Chapter VI measures to promote peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the Charter.
- The Council should intensify cooperation and coordination with regional organizations in addressing issues related to the concerned organizations.

d) The question of the veto:

- The use of the veto should be restricted to only measures under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- The Security Council should further its relationship with the General Assembly, the major organ with the participation of the entire membership of the United Nations, via increased consultations and reporting, especially on matters related to the majority of UN Member States.
- The Council, through its President, should report more regularly to the General Assembly.
- Participation in the preparation of documents and reports of the Council, including its annual reports, should be more open and accessible to non-Council members.

## Framework Document

*Submission by the following Member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM):*

*Bahamas*

*Barbados*

*Belize*

*Grenada*

*Guyana*

*Haiti*

*Jamaica*

*Saint Kitts and Nevis*

*Saint Lucia*

*Saint Vincent and the Grenadines*

*Suriname*

*Trinidad and Tobago*

**Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.**

a) Categories of membership:

- Permanent members - a total of (Please see point 1 under any other related matters)<sup>1</sup> seats
  - The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America
  - [In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats Election by the General Assembly by a vote of no less than two third of the Members of the General Assembly with due consideration to the requirements of Article 23 (1)]
- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - a total of (Please see point 1 under any other related matters) seats
  - [In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for seats Election process for non-permanent seats remain unchanged]
- [Any new category: One rotating seat for Small Island Developing States across all regions]

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<sup>1</sup> "(...)" denotes a space intended for numerical values whereas "[...]" is intended for the inclusion of text.

*– [In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats. Same as currently obtains for non-permanent seats]*

b) Regional representation:

- [Expansion in permanent and non-permanent categories for Africa
- Expansion in permanent and non-permanent categories for Asia
- Expansion in non-permanent category for Eastern European
- Expansion in permanent and non-permanent categories for GRULAC
- Expansion in permanent category for WEOG
- One rotating seat for Small Island Developing States across all regions ]

c) (i)The size of an enlarged Security Council-a total of (Please see point 1 under any other related matters )seats

(ii)Working methods of the Council:

- [The Security Council should formalize its provisional rules of procedure as well as measures to improve transparency and increase the involvement of non-members in its work as appropriate and to enhance the Council's accountability.
- Each member of the Council should hold the presidency at least once during its membership. ]

d)The question of the veto:

[Support abolition of the veto. However, in event of its retention, new permanent members should also have right to veto. There should be no distinction between permanent members.

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- While the veto is in existence, efforts must be made to limit its use to Chapter VII and also in the instance of the most serious crimes of international concern, crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide, etc.]

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- [In the Council reports to the General Assembly, both annual and special reports as provided for in article 15 and 24, the Council should give an account of its stewardship in regard to the prerogatives it exercises on behalf of Member States.
- More analytical and special reports as necessary.
- Permanent members should explain non concurrent votes to the wider UN membership.
- Elected members should be enabled to play a more active and effective role in the decision making process of the Council.
- The relationship between the Security Council and General Assembly should be characterized by cooperation and mutual support with full respect for their respective mandates. The Security Council should concentrate on areas within its mandate and avoid encroachment on matters which fall under the purview of the General Assembly.
- The General Assembly should be strengthened in its role as the chief deliberative, policy making and representative organ of the United Nations.
- In instances where open debates are held on issues being considered by the Council where non-members are invited

to participate it may be apposite for Council members to consider giving a hearing to the views of those invited members of the wider membership before themselves pronouncing on the issue being addressed.]

- Any other related matters<sup>2</sup>:

1. [ The Member States listed above reserve their position on the additional and total numbers in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of a reformed Council.
2. Any decision taken on reform should have the widest possible support of member states and at the very least, be in keeping with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/30.
3. There should be a review of the decisions taken to reform the Security Council. Such a review should take place within a specified time maybe 10-15 years of any decision taken and ratified on reform.]

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<sup>2</sup> Placeholder for Member States who may wish to address other related matters necessitated by enlargement.





PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

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APR 30 2015

PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

No. 64/2015/HUPM/NEW

New York, 28 April, 2015

H.E. Mr. E. Courtney Rattray  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Jamaica  
to the United Nations  
New York

Excellency,

Regarding to Your letter dated 26 March, 2015 please find attached the framework document with the position and proposals of the Government of Hungary on the reform of the Security Council.

I would like to reiterate the commitment of Hungary to the Security Council reform, and building on our excellent relationship I look forward to our continued cooperation.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Encl.: Framework document

Yours sincerely,

Katalin Boglár  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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## Framework Document

### *For inputs from Member States*

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

a) Categories of membership:

- Permanent members - not more than (11)<sup>1</sup> seats
  - The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America
  - [*In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats...*]
- Hungary supports the possible expansion of the permanent membership of the Security Council which shall be guided by the principle of equitable geographical representation, and shall reflect the political and socio-economic changes that took place during the last half century.
- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - not more than (16) seats
  - [*In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for seats...*]
- Hungary supports the enlargement of the non-permanent membership of the Council in order to provide more opportunity to regional and sub-regional groups to be represented continuously in the Council.
- Current election system is efficient.
- [*Any new category...*]
  - [*In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats...*]
- Should it find consensus, Hungary does not exclude an interim solution, where a new category of seats is created for longer periods than two years that can also be immediately renewable.

b) Regional representation:

- The enlargement of the Security Council shall be guided by the principles of Article 23. of the Charter, based on the equitable geographical representation of the regional groups.
- Hungary requests a second non-permanent seat for the Eastern European Group.

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<sup>1</sup> "(...)" denotes a space intended for numerical values whereas "[...]" is intended for the inclusion of text.

- Hungary does not reject, *á priori*, other supplementary models based on other criteria. If other categories are accepted the necessary adjustments in regional representation has to be carried out.

c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council- a total of not more than (27) seats

(ii) Working methods of the Council:

- Charter amendment has to be part of the package (Article 27 and 28 to 32).
- Will be defined by Charter amendments (Voting procedure) and the new Rules of Procedure.
- The new Rules of Procedure will have to be adopted by the Security Council and by the entry into force of the Charter amendments.

Concrete measures to be taken:

- The majority required for decision-making in an enlarged Council is to be reflected in the necessary Charter amendments (Article 27.)
- Review of the working methods of the subsidiary bodies is required on decision-making.
- Ways to address the workload of the Council, assigning more tasks to subsidiary bodies on (sub)-regions.
- Assigning chairmanships of subsidiary bodies in an equitable and transparent way.

d) The question of the veto:

- Hungary supports all initiatives facilitating timely and decisive action by the Security Council aimed at preventing or ending mass atrocities, including those calling for voluntarily agreeing to refrain from using the veto.

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- Hungary supports measures which strengthen the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly.
- Concrete measure could be the submission of an analytical annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly.

- Any other related matters<sup>2</sup>:

- In order to facilitate the expected outcome (GA resolution), already at the beginning of the process we

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<sup>2</sup> Placeholder for Member States who may wish to address other related matters necessitated by enlargement.

should make a distinction between those measures which need the amendment of the Charter and those recommendations or proposals that do not require such action.

- In our view the zero draft of the General Assembly resolution should consist of two chapters:
  - The first chapter should contain the Charter amendments.
  - The second chapter should consist of the decision of the GA (eg. on relationship of SC and GA) and the recommendations for the Security Council (eg. Rules of Procedure).

## Framework Document

### Joint input by Belgium and Luxembourg

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

a) Categories of membership:

- Permanent members - a total of 11 seats
  - The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America
  - Election by the General Assembly of 6 new permanent members: 2 from Africa, 2 from Asia, 1 from GRULAC, 1 from WEOG
- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - a total of 14/15 seats: 4/5 from Africa, 3 from Asia, 2 from EEG, 3 from GRULAC, 2 from WEOG
  - In the first election of the non-permanent members after the increase of the membership of the Security Council from 15 to maximum 25/26, 2 of the 4/5 additional non-permanent members shall be chosen for a term of one year.

b) Regional representation:

- Any enlargement of the Security Council should take into account the concerns of small and medium-sized Member States, including the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Member States should give due consideration during the nomination and election of non-permanent members to adequate and continuing representation of small and medium-sized Member States on the Security Council.

c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council - a total of maximum 25/26 seats

(ii) Working methods of the Council:

- The working methods of an enlarged Security Council need to be improved in order to strengthen transparency, accountability, legitimacy and to enhance the effectiveness of the Council's decisions. Provisions should inter alia be made to ensure that non-permanent members of the Council hold the Presidency of the Council at least once during their two-year membership. More generally, an enlarged Council should not make it more difficult for non-permanent members to contribute actively to the work of the Council.

d) The question of the veto:

- An extension of the veto right to new permanent members would have a negative impact on the efficiency of the Security Council. New permanent members should not exercise their veto right until a decision on the matter has been taken during a review, to be held 15 years after the entry into force of the amendments to the Charter.
- We support the French proposal of a code of conduct for the voluntary limitation of the use of the veto right in situations involving mass atrocity crimes. More generally, all Member States should commit to support timely action by the Security Council aimed at preventing or ending the commission of genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes.

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- Even an enlarged Council cannot reflect in its composition the universality of the General Assembly. It is therefore important to further strengthen the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly, including by making better use of annual and, when necessary, special reports submitted by the Security Council to the General Assembly for its consideration, in accordance with article 24.3 of the Charter. The annual reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly should be both comprehensive and analytical in nature, so as to allow all Member States to assess how the Security Council has discharged the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, which Member States have conferred on the Security Council. This would enhance the accountability and the transparency of the work of the Council.
- Any other related matters:
  - The situation created by the amendments to the Charter would be reviewed 15 years after their entry into force.

## Framework Document

### *For inputs from Member States*

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

a) Categories of membership:

- The Kingdom of the Netherlands is looking for common ground with regards to categories of membership. It is open to considering both an increase in permanent members and non-permanent members as well as intermediate solutions.

a) Regional representation:

- In particular the African Group should be better represented in a reformed Security Council.

b) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council

- The Security Council should be expanded in order to make it more broadly representative. At the same time, expansion of the UN Security Council should not hamper its effectiveness.
- Small and medium sized countries should continue to be adequately represented in the Council.

(ii) Working methods of the Council:

- Expansion of the Security Council should not lead to a weakening of the position of non-permanent members.
- The Council should actively involve the countries it is discussing, as well as TCC's and FCC's involved.
- The Council should seek more transparency and involve non-members where possible (wrap-up sessions, open briefings).
- A forward looking approach should be fostered: the option of regular horizon scannings by the UNSG to the UNSC should be actively pursued
- The UN Security Council should make more use of the tools from Chapter VI of the Charter for the pacific settlement of disputes.

d) The question of the veto:

- In our reform efforts we should aim to minimize the use of the veto. We support the French initiative that aims to regulate the use of the veto.

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- The Security Council -also when enlarged- by nature does not have the universal composition of the General Assembly. In those instances where both the Council and the General Assembly

have a formal role to play, such as in the election of a Secretary-General, both organs should be able to play their role.

- Any other related matters<sup>1</sup>:
  - The Kingdom of the Netherlands is willing to start negotiations on Security Council reform on the basis of any text proposal, which is broadly supported in the UN General Assembly.

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<sup>1</sup> Placeholder for Member States who may wish to address other related matters necessitated by enlargement.



**Panama's Response to the Framework Document presented by H.E. Courtenay Rattray, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, regarding Security Council Reform**

*Revised version July 2015*

a) **Membership Categories:**

**VISION**

***By the UN Centennial in 2045, the Security Council is composed of 24 members, all on equal standing, elected for three-year terms, with the opportunity for consecutive re-election.***

Panama considers that the very nature of membership "categories" does not correspond to the democratic institution that we are trying to perfect. In the long run, we would like to see there are no membership categories, just as is the case in all the other UN bodies. And in keeping with the size of other UN bodies, the number of Security Council members would be expanded to 24.

Having said that, and understanding the reality and dynamics of the current Security Council, we propose a gradual transformation, where the existing categories of permanent and non-permanent membership evolve into a sort of "semi-permanent" membership: Member States would be elected for longer terms (e.g. 3 years), with the opportunity for consecutive re-election. We propose working together to come up with a staged, innovative, win-win scenario where, eventually, the P5 themselves "come up for reelection".

**The final composition of the Security Council will be phased in over two stages, considering the commitments well into the 2030's as already acquired by some Member States in terms of their candidacy under the current membership structure, with 5 Permanent Members and 10 Non-Permanent Members on a two-year rotation.**

**During the first stage the existing permanent and non-permanent categories would still apply, with the introduction of an additional "semi-permanent" category. Semi-permanence entails a tentatively indefinite tenure without the right to veto.**

**The first stage, ending in 2030, introduces five semi-permanent seats to accommodate the G4 and one member of the African Group; one additional non-permanent seat each for the Eastern European Group and the Arab States, and two for the Small Island Developing States.**

**The second stage introduces three-year election cycles beginning in 2030 for all positions in the Security Council. Measures to ascertain the re-election of the P5 until the UN centennial in 2045 should be discussed and incorporated.**

Panama makes this reform proposal for evolving into semi-permanent membership based on:

- ✓ the principle of equality among States, under which the UN aims to operate;
- ✓ in consideration to and respecting the current P5 historical presence and role in the Security Council; and

- ✓ the fact that there is an important number of countries (including the current P5 themselves) whose level of commitment with the organization—be it in the form of financial contributions or in the supply of troops for peacekeeping operations, or any other—have earned them representation in this very important body of the UN.

**b) Geographic and Regional Representation:**

The proposed distribution of member seats takes into account the various other proposals on the table, as well as the proportion of countries in each region of the world, giving greater representation to developing countries, and bearing in mind that a few countries overlap groupings.

By 2030 (first stage) the composition of the Security Council will amount to the P5, one semi-permanent seat and three non-permanent seats for the African Group; Brazil and two non-permanent seats for GRULAC; Japan, India, and two non-permanent seats for the Asia-Pacific Group; Germany and two non-permanent seats for WEOG; two non-permanent seats for EEG; one non-permanent seat for the Arab States; and two non-permanent seats for SIDS.

By 2045 (second stage), the composition of the Security Council will amount to four African members; three members from GRULAC; five members from Asia/Pacific; six members from WEOG; three members from EEG; one member from the Arab States; and two members from SIDS.

- c) (i) An expanded Security Council would have a total of 24 seats, all on equal standing.

**(ii) Working Methods of the Council**

An expanded Security Council would maintain the same proportionality of 60% for voting purposes, i.e. decisions would be adopted by the affirmative vote of 15 members.

Working methods would continue to be revised and adapted to allow greater openness and transparency for the greater membership of the UN, on whose behalf the Security Council operates.

**d) The question of the Veto**

Panama believes the veto is an anachronistic tool, belonging in a period of our past history. Regardless of which membership formula we end up using for the Security Council, our aim should be to eliminate the veto.

Until we reach the stage of full abolishment of the veto, we should continue to strive for it not to be used, especially in humanitarian situations. As an ethical statement, the P5 should refrain from using the veto when their national interest is involved.

## **MALAYSIA'S POSITION ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC) REFORM**

The position of Malaysia on the five (5) main issues in the UNSC reforms are as follows:

### **i. Categories of membership**

- Malaysia supports the expansion of both categories in the UNSC.

### **ii. Regional Representation**

- Malaysia holds the view that expansion should see more seats for the developing countries and equitable geographical representation in the enlarged membership, in both categories. This is important for inclusiveness in the decision-making process of the Security Council.

### **iii. Size of an enlarged Security Council and Its working methods**

It is expected that the issue of membership expansion and working methods of the Council would continue to be debated in the future, which may require regular review of these two issues. As such, a review mechanism is recommended.

#### *(a) The size of an enlarged Security Council*

- Malaysia supports the expansion of membership, both permanent and non-permanent categories, so as to ensure fair regional representation and correspond with the current geopolitical realities and dynamics.

#### *(b) Working methods of the Council:*

- Malaysia supports the need for more briefings by the President of the UNSC to the larger UN membership, and these briefings should be more interactive and substantive. The current practice of reading from prepared texts agreed by UNSC members has constrained the President from engaging the wider UN membership on issues of major concern, including seeking their valuable views that could add value to the work of the UNSC as a whole.
- There is a need for more transparency and close consultations amongst all members of the Council on all matters that the Security Council is seized with.

- There is a need for improvement in the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the Security Council, including through a formalisation of the Council's Provisional Rules of Procedure which has yet to be adopted.
- There should be more coordination between the Security Council and troop contributing countries (TCCs), towards strengthening the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations. The Council's meetings with TCCs should be sustained, regular and timely, in particular with regards to resolutions and mandates of the operations.
- There should be more structured interaction and regular consultations between the Council and the Peacebuilding Commission.
- Malaysia also welcomes the wrap-up sessions at the end of the Presidency as well as the holding of 'Arria-Formula' meetings, which are some of the methods being utilized to enhance closer interaction with non-Council members.

#### **iv. The Question of Veto**

- Malaysia has been among the countries that have consistently called for the abolishment of the use of the veto in conformity with the principle of sovereign equality as envisaged in the Charter. Nevertheless, we continue to call for a restraint in the use of veto powers especially in cases of international crimes of the most serious nature such as in instances of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. Alternatively, the exercise of the veto should be regulated so as to prohibit such power being the sole discretion of its holder to unjustly overrule the wishes of the majority. In this regard, Malaysia would call for a modified veto system whereby a minimum of three vetoes should be made a prerequisite to block a resolution.
- The new Permanent Members should also be accorded veto power so as to contribute towards a more balanced and representational decision-making process, particularly if it is agreed that all regions would be represented in the Security Council.

#### **v. Relationship between the UNSC and the UNGA**

Malaysia is of the view that there should be a clear delineation between the work of the UNGA and the UNSC, based on their respective mandates. There is also the need to prevent the gradual encroachment of the work of the UNSC in matters that fall under the prerogative of the UNGA. Malaysia also feels that there is need to institutionalise the monthly consultations between the President of the UNGA and the President of the UNSC as well as call for an enhancement of the annual

reports of the UNSC to the UNGA, which should be more comprehensive and analytical rather than merely narrative.

**v. Cross-cutting issues**

- Malaysia encourages the UNSC to take advantage of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) by seeking its advisory opinion, consistent with Article 96 (1) of the UN Charter. Malaysia believes that the UNSC deliberations on contentious political issues would be better served if supplemented by an authoritative legal opinion. Although the legal opinions are not legally binding, they would contribute towards upholding the principle of respect for the rule of law as enshrined in the UN Charter.

Malaysia remains firm and clear on the need to reform the UNSC. We wish to underscore that the spirit of flexibility and compromise are key in advancing the IGN negotiations forward. Malaysia looks forward to engage with all Member States to find areas of convergence and consensus in our common goals to make the UNSC more accountable, effective and transparent.

## Framework Document

### *Input of the Czech Republic*

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

a) Categories of membership:

- Permanent members - a total of **11 seats**

- The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America

- *In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats:* Upon adoption of a comprehensive framework resolution on Security Council reform, interested Member States prepared to assume the functions and responsibilities of permanent members of the Security Council would submit their candidatures in writing to the President of the General Assembly. The General assembly will then proceed, as soon as possible, at a date to be determined by the President of the General Assembly to the **election of the six new permanent members, by a vote of two thirds** of the members of the General Assembly through a secret ballot. The rules of procedure of the General Assembly will be applied to the election of the new permanent members.

- Due regard shall be paid, in the first instance to **their contributions to the maintenance of the international peace and security** and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographical distribution.

- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - a total of **14 seats**

- *In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for seats:* The election process for non-permanent members will follow current practices.

b) Regional representation:

The **six new permanent members** of the Security Council shall be elected according to the following pattern:

Two from African Member States;  
Two from Asia-Pacific Member States;  
One from Latin American and Caribbean Member States;  
One from Western European and Other Member States;

The **four new non-permanent members** of the Security Council shall be elected according to the following pattern:

One from African Member States;  
One from Asia-Pacific Member States;  
One from Eastern European Member States;  
One from Latin American and Caribbean Member States;

We would like to **emphasize the necessity of one new non-permanent Member seat for Eastern European Member States** that are considerably underrepresented in the Security Council.

c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council - a **total of 25 seats**

(ii) Working methods of the Council:

- The work of the Security Council should be **as transparent and open as possible** - non-member States should have better insight in the work and decision making process of the Security Council.

- The enlarged Security Council would be **encouraged to meet in a public format; to hold more thematic open debates** with possibilities of national statements; to hold regular briefings on current issues and problems faced by the international community ; to send systematically draft resolutions and presidential statements also to non-member States of the Security Council

d) The question of the veto:

- The new permanent members would as a principle have the same responsibilities and obligations as current permanent members. However, the **new permanent members shall not exercise the veto-right** until a decision on the matter has been taken during a **review, to be held fifteen years after** the coming into force of the reform.

- In order to allow the Security Council to take needed measures to maintain international peace and security, **the current permanent members shall not exercise the veto-right in situations of mass atrocities** (genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing) and shall voluntarily adopt a code of conduct to refrain from using veto in these situations.

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- The enlarged Security Council would be encouraged to hold regular consultations with the President of the General Assembly; submit an analytical and comprehensive evaluation of its work in the **annual report to the General Assembly**; submit more frequently **special reports** to the General Assembly.
- **Equal position and mutual complementarity (since their tasks are different) of the Security Council and the General Assembly** as two of the main organs of the United Nations should be stressed.

- Any other related matters

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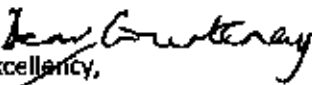


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PERMANENT MISSION OF IRELAND  
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8 June 2015

Ambassador Courtenay Rattray  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Conference on Security Council Reform  
Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations  
New York

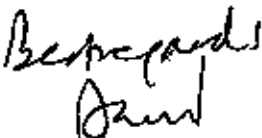
  
Excellency,

Please find attached Ireland's submission to the Framework Document in the context of the Intergovernmental Conference on Security Council Reform.

Ireland strongly supports your efforts to make progress on this issue. Reform and expansion of the Security Council, so that it better reflects twenty first century realities in a regionally balanced way, is long overdue.

While Ireland's favoured model of expansion is outlined in the attached submission, we are open to considering various models of expanded membership. Compromise will inevitably be required and it could be that the model ultimately attracting the widest consensus will be one which does not correspond exactly to the letter of the two main proposals put forward to date but represents a third way forward.

We look forward to continuing to support the process of Security Council reform as we move toward text-based negotiations.



David Donoghue  
Permanent Representative

**Framework Document**  
***Input from Ireland***

**Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.**

**a) Categories of membership:**

- Permanent members – a total of 5 seats.
  - *The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America*
  - *Ireland is not convinced by arguments for an increase in the number of permanent seats. Bringing in new permanent members would seem to carry the risk of perpetuating many of the deficiencies of current arrangements.*
- Non-permanent members with a two-year term – a total of 15 seats
  - *The existing ten non-permanent members with elections rotating between regional groups as at present plus the following four additional seats*
    - *Eastern European Group (EEG) – 1*
    - *African Group – 2*
    - *Asia-Pacific Group - 1*
    - *Latin American and Caribbean Group – 1*
  - *It is for consideration whether countries holding two-year term seats would be free to stand again for a second term on completion of their first. It is also for consideration whether at the end of the second term they might be required to step down for a number of years before standing again.*
- Non-permanent members with an eight-year term – a total of 6 seats
  - *To be divided among the geographic groups as follows:*
    - *Western European and Others Group - 1*
    - *African Group – 2*
    - *Asia-Pacific Group - 2*
    - *Latin American and Caribbean Group – 1*
  - *It is for consideration whether countries holding eight-year term seats would be free to stand again for a second term on completion of their first. It is also for consideration whether at the end of the second term they might be required to step down for a number of years before standing again.*

**b) Regional representation:**

*The distribution of seats in Ireland's preferred model would be as follows:*

	Current permanent seats	Existing 2 year seats	New 8 year seats	New 2 year seats	Total (permanent, 2 year, and 8 year seats)
WEOG	3	2	1	-	6
Eastern Europe Group	1	1	-	1	3
African Group	-	3	2	2	7
Asia Pacific Group	1	2	2	1	6
LAC Group	-	2	1	1	4
Total	5	10	6	5	26

**c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council - a total of 26 seats**

- *5 permanent seats, 15 non-permanent two-year term seats and 6 non-permanent eight-year term seats.*

**(ii) Working methods of the Council:**

- *Ireland is in favour of*
  - *Improving the accountability and transparency of the Security Council, including*
    - *A more transparent selection of a new Secretary General*
    - *Reforming the preparation of the Council's annual report*
  - *Making the Security Council more open and interactive*
    - *More equitability in the selection of chairs of subsidiary bodies*
    - *More Q&A briefings on the Council's programme of work*
  - *A code of conduct on the use of the veto*

**d) The question of the veto:**

- *Ireland would in general favour the abolition of the veto.*
- *If this cannot be agreed, Ireland would oppose the conferral of veto powers on any new Members*
- *Ireland sees strong merit in the proposals by France that the five permanent members of the Security Council would voluntarily waive their right to exercise their veto in cases of mass atrocity crimes, and the proposal by ACT countries for a code of conduct for all states for dealing with such issues at the Security*

**INPUTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN  
TO THE FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT OF THE CHAIR  
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS (IGN)  
ON THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM**

*New York,  
30 June 2015*

**a) Categories of membership:**

- **Permanent members – a total of 11 seats**
  - Existing seats:*
    - (i) The People's Republic of China
    - (ii) France
    - (iii) The Russian Federation
    - (iv) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
    - (v) The United States of America
  - New seats:*
    - (vi) Brazil (from Latin American and Caribbean Group, GRULAC)
    - (vii) Germany (from Western European and Others Group, WEOG)
    - (viii) India (from Asia-Pacific Group)
    - (ix) Japan (from Asia-Pacific Group)
    - (x) African state (from African Group)
    - (xi) African state (from African Group)
  
- **Non-permanent members with a two year term – a total number of 15 seats:**
  - (i) African state (from African Group)
  - (ii) African state (from African Group)
  - (iii) African state (from African Group)
  - (iv) African state (from African Group)
  - (v) Asia-Pacific state (from Asia-Pacific Group)
  - (vi) Asia-Pacific state (from Asia-Pacific Group)
  - (vii) Asia-Pacific state (from Asia-Pacific Group)
  - (viii) Eastern European state (from Eastern European Group)
  - (ix) Eastern European state (from Eastern European Group)
  - (x) Latin American/Caribbean state (from Latin American and Caribbean Group)
  - (xi) Latin American/Caribbean state (from Latin American and Caribbean Group)
  - (xii) Latin American/Caribbean state (from Latin American and Caribbean Group)
  - (xiii) Western European state (from Western European and Others Group)
  - (xiv) Western European state (from Western European and Others Group)
  - (xv) Western European state (from Western European and Others Group)

**b) Regional representation:**

(i) African Group:	6 seats (2 permanent + 4 non-permanent)
(ii) Asia-Pacific Group:	6 seats (3 permanent + 3 non-permanent)
(iii) Eastern European Group:	3 seats (1 permanent + 2 non-permanent)
(iv) GRULAC:	4 seats (1 permanent + 3 non-permanent)
(v) WEOG:	7 seats (4 permanent + 3 non-permanent)

**c) The size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council:**

(i) The size of an enlarged Security Council – a total of 26 seats

(ii) Working methods of the Council

- ***Number of open debates of the UNSC should be increased;***
- ***Veto should not be used in cases of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes***

**d) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:**

- ***Coordination between the Council and the General Assembly should be enhanced;***
- ***Transparency in the appointment of new UN Secretary General and accession of new UN Member States should be increased***

## **Romania on Security Council Reform**

### *General views*

- Romania supports the Security Council reform, in order to make this key body more representative, transparent and efficient.
- ***Romania stands firmly for an increased representation of the Eastern European Group by affording at least one additional non-permanent seat in the future architecture of the Security Council.***
- Romania stands for an expansion of the Council within reasonable limits, up to 25-27 members, for both permanent and non-permanent members.
- The process of reforming the Security Council should stimulate the contribution of the entire UN to addressing the political and practical challenges of a more effective global body.
- Romania supports any compromise solution which is able to push forward the reform process, if it is able to gather, under the current circumstances, the support of greater number of UN Member States.

### *Categories of members:*

- The Security Council should be expanded in both permanent and non-permanent categories.
- Romania supports new permanent seats in the UN Security Council for Germany, Japan, India and Brazil.

### *Veto rights:*

- Romania supports an adjustment of the veto right based on consensus of the current permanent members, taking into consideration the needs of the Council for faster action, greater involvement in conflict prevention and increasing efficiency.

### *Geographical representation:*

- Romania supports the African, Asian or Latin America proposals for better representation in the Security Council.
- The agreed position in the *Eastern European Group* is to go for "*at least one additional non-permanent seat*" in any enlarged SC.

### *Working methods:*

- Security Council should adapt its working methods in order to increase transparency, accountability and contribution of regional organizations and non-member States, where appropriate.



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000512

16 July 2015

Excellency,

I am pleased to submit the following general views of the Philippines on the issue of Security Council reform:

1. The Philippines notes the important contributions that the United Nations Security Council has made to the maintenance of international peace and security since its inception, but it also recognizes that the Council is at times unable to function as envisioned by the founders of the UN, given the dynamics within the body.
2. On working methods, the Philippines prioritizes the reform of the working methods of the Council in order to achieve accountability, fidelity to the trust, predictability, and transparency in its work. Reform of the working methods should be given preferential attention over the issues of veto and representation which are more complicated.
3. On expansion of membership, the Philippines is open to discussions on enlargement of membership in both categories (permanent and non-permanent) based on consensually agreed criteria.
4. On the exercise of the veto, on the basis of the principle of sovereign equality of all the UN Member States as enshrined in the UN Charter, the Philippines holds the view that no State should be granted the special privilege to exercise the veto power. On the French proposal for a code of conduct among the P5 regarding their use of veto in the Security Council, the Philippines could support the proposal as a first step towards a process of reviewing the veto power of the permanent members.

The Philippines intends to actively take part in future discussions on Security Council Reform under your Chairmanship and assure you of our full support and cooperation.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

  
LOURDES O. FARRAGUIRRE  
Permanent Representative

H.E. Courtenay Rattray  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform

## 中华人民共和国常驻联合国代表团

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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*350 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016*

*TEL.: (212) 655-6100*

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Your Excellency,

With reference to the informal briefing session of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and your letter dated that day, I would like to reiterate China's position on Security Council reform and make the following points regarding the framework document and the broad approach contained in your letter.

According to decision 62/557 adopted by the General Assembly as well as the consensus of Member States, the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform should be driven by Member States, and the positions of Member States should form the basis of the Negotiations. However, these principles and consensus are not reflected in your framework document and the broad approach.

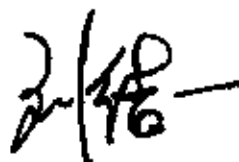
Security Council reform bears on the common interests of all Member States and the long-term interests of the United Nations. Any solution or reform model should enjoy general agreement among Member States. The five clusters of key issues concerning Security Council reform are interrelated. The position of Member States on these key issues embodies intrinsic and logical interconnections between these key issues. Hence such position should not be disintegrated nor should its integrity be compromised. Without the mandate or consent from Member States, the positions of Member States should not be simplified, nor the options for Negotiations be reduced, otherwise the very basis for the Negotiations would be altered.



China has taken an active and constructive part in the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform. We expect the Chair of this mechanism to earnestly uphold the membership-driven principle and to work in an open, inclusive and transparent manner. The position of China on Security Council reform has been reflected in the Rev.2 Document, a compilation of positions of Member States submitted by the former Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform.

Based on the above position, China will not populate the framework document you have disseminated. I herewith enclose the Position of China on the Security Council Reform. It is expected that this position be fully respected in its entirety and not disintegrated in any way.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative  
of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Courtney Rattray  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform

## 中国关于安理会改革问题的立场

中国坚定支持对安理会进行必要、合理的改革，以提高安理会的权威和效率，增强其应对全球性威胁和挑战的能力，更好地履行《联合国宪章》赋予的职责。安理会改革是多方面的，既包括扩大规模和增强代表性问题，也包括提高工作效率、改进工作方法等问题。安理会改革应优先增加发展中国家、特别是非洲国家在安理会的代表性，让发展中国家能在安理会发挥更大作用。改革应有利于让更多国家，特别是中、小国家有更多机会轮流进入安理会，参与其决策。

当前，会员国在安理会改革问题上仍存在严重分歧，目前还没有能够达成总体一致的方案。各方仍需继续耐心协商，找到能够照顾彼此利益和关切的解决办法。

安理会新增席位应进行合理的分配，坚持地域平衡原则，兼顾不同文明与文化的代表性。中国对改进安理会的工作方法始终持积极态度。安理会有必要继续总结好的经验和作法，增强工作透明度，听取并尊重广大会员国的意见。中国支持加强联大与安理会的协调与合作。

《联合国宪章》明确界定了联大与安理会的职权划分。联大和安理会应根据《宪章》的授权，各司其职、相互补充。

安理会改革涉及全体会员国的共同利益和联合国的长远利益。任何改革方案均应在会员国间达成总体一致。安理会改革涉及的五大类问题相互关联，不能割裂处理，必须坚持“一揽子解决”的思路，“零散处理”或分阶段解决的作法不利于兼顾会员国的利益和关切。安理会改革不能以牺牲会员国的团结为代价。各方应继续致力于政府间谈判进程，采取灵活和务实的态度，逐步积累互信，相向而行。任何尚存在重大分歧的方案或可能导致会员国分裂的作法，均不会得到中国的支持。

(Translation)

### **Position of China on the Security Council Reform**

China firmly supports necessary and reasonable reform of the Security Council to enhance its authority and efficiency, strengthen its capacity to respond to global threats and challenges, and enable it to better discharge its responsibilities entrusted by the *Charter of the United Nations*. Security Council reform is multifaceted, covering not only issues such as enlarging the Council's membership and strengthening representation, but also increasing efficiency and improving working methods. Security Council reform should give top priority to increasing the representation of developing countries, especially that of African countries. The reform should enable more countries, the small and medium sized countries in particular, gain more opportunities to take turns to serve in the Security Council and participate in its decision making process.

Member States are still seriously divided on the Security Council reform. No general agreement has been reached on any solution so far. Member states still need to engage in patient consultations to find a solution that accommodates each other's interests and concerns.

New seats of the Security Council should be reasonably distributed. The principle of geographic balance should be adhered to, with representation of different civilizations and cultures taken into

consideration. China has all along held a positive attitude towards improvement of the working methods of the Security Council. It is necessary for the Council to continue to take stock of its experience and best practices, increase transparency in its work, and heed to and respect the views of Member States. China supports the strengthening of coordination and cooperation between the General Assembly and the Security Council. The *Charter of the United Nations* has clearly defined the functions and powers of the General Assembly and the Security Council. These two principal organs should discharge their respective responsibilities mandated by the *Charter of the United Nations* and complement each other.

Security Council reform bears on the common interests of all Member States and the long-term interests of the United Nations. Any solution or reform model should enjoy general agreement among Member States. The five clusters of key issues concerning Security Council reform are interrelated, and should not be addressed in isolation of each other. It is imperative to stick to the approach of a package solution. The “piecemeal” or “step-by-step” approach is not conducive to accommodating the interests and concerns of Member States. Security Council reform should not be carried out at the expense of the unity of Member States. All member States should remain committed to the intergovernmental negotiations process, adopt a flexible and pragmatic attitude, gradually build mutual trust and meet each other halfway. No solution on which Member States are seriously divided or approach that may cause division among Member States will have China’s Support.

Постоянный представитель  
Российской Федерации  
при Организации  
Объединенных Наций

Phone: (212) 861 4900  
Fax: (212) 628 0257



Permanent Representative  
of the Russian Federation  
to the United Nations

136 East 67<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10065

№ 1264

Нью-Йорк, «14» апреля 2015 г.

Ваше Превосходительство,

В соответствии с Вашей просьбой, озвученной на неформальной встрече по реформе СБ ООН 26 марта, представляю позицию России по ключевым аспектам этого вопроса, которые, как мы считаем, неразрывно взаимосвязаны и не могут рассматриваться по отдельности.

Реформа СБ – один из наиболее важных вопросов в повестке дня Всемирной организации. В условиях, когда позиции основных групп государств – тех, что поддерживают идею расширения Совета в обеих категориях, и тех, кто ее не поддерживает, – остаются диаметрально противоположными, продвинуться в процессе переговоров можно только путем поиска компромисса. В этой связи мы готовы рассмотреть любой разумный вариант расширения СБ, включая так называемую «промежуточную модель», которая по сути является компромиссной моделью, при условии, что данная опция получит максимально широкую поддержку в ООН.

Его Превосходительству  
г-ну Коргни Раттрею  
Постоянному представителю Ямайки при ООН  
Координатору межправительственных переговоров  
по реформе СБ ООН

г. Нью-Йорк

Россия поддерживает более широкое представительство развивающихся стран из Африки, Азии и Латинской Америки в реформированном СБ.

Считаем важным сохранять компактный характер СБ, с тем, чтобы он мог адекватно и быстро реагировать на новые вызовы. Поэтому количество членов в расширенном Совете не должно превышать разумный уровень «чуть более двадцати».

Совершенствование рабочих методов СБ должно осуществляться в транспарентном ключе через существующие механизмы, включая неформальную рабочую группу Совета по документации и другим процедурным вопросам, при должном внимании к конструктивным идеям государств-членов ООН. Вместе с тем, лидирующая роль в этом процессе должна принадлежать самому Совету Безопасности как единственному легитимному «владельцу» собственных рабочих методов.

Прерогативы нынешних постоянных членов СБ ООН, включая использование права вето, должны остаться неизменными при любом варианте реформы.

Межправительственные переговоры по реформе СБ должны осуществляться в спокойной, транспарентной и инклюзивной атмосфере, без искусственных ограничений по времени. Даже если консенсус по этому вопросу будет невозможен, в любом случае политически важно гарантировать поддержку подавляющего большинства государств-членов – значительного большего, чем юридически необходимые две трети голосов в ГА.

Примите, Ваше Превосходительство, уверения в моем весьма высоком уважении.



В. Чуркин

Excellency,

Pursuant to your request made at the informal meeting on the Security Council reform on March 26, 2015 I have the honour to provide herewith Russia's position on key aspects of this issue, which we believe are inextricably interlinked and cannot be considered separately.

The reform of the UN Security Council is one of the most important issues on the agenda of this world organization. In the situation when positions of the main groups of states – those who support the idea of the UN Security Council's expansion in both categories and those who do not – remain polar, one can advance in the negotiating process only by searching for a compromise. In these circumstances we are prepared to consider any reasonable option of expanding the Security Council including the so-called "intermediate solution", which is actually a compromise solution, provided that this option enjoys the widest possible consent at the UN.

Russia supports broader representation of the developing countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America on the reformed Security Council.

It is important to maintain compact composition of the Security Council in order for it to provide an adequate and prompt reaction to new challenges. The number of members in an enlarged Security Council should not exceed a reasonable level of low twenties.

Improvement of the working methods of the Security Council should be done in a transparent way through existing mechanisms, including the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, with a due consideration of constructive ideas of Member States. However, the leading role in this process should belong to the Security Council itself as the only legitimate master of its own procedures and working methods.



The prerogatives of the current Permanent Members of the Security Council, including the use of veto, should remain intact under any variant of the Council reform.

The intergovernmental negotiations on the UN Security Council reform should proceed in a calm, transparent and inclusive atmosphere free from artificial deadlines. If a consensus on this issue is not possible to achieve, then in any case it will be politically necessary to secure the support by the overwhelming majority of the Member States – a substantially greater number than the legally required two thirds of votes at the General Assembly.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



**Lao People's Democratic Republic**  
**Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity**

RECEIVED  
APR 16 2015

Permanent Mission of the Lao  
People's Democratic Republic  
to the United Nations

Fax Cover

To: H.E Courtenay Rattay, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Jamaica to UN,  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Reform

From: Permanent Mission of Lao PDR to UN

Pages including cover: 3

Date: April 16, 2015

Lao People's Democratic Republic is of the view that the UN has played a crucial role in maintaining international peace and security and promoting the socio-economic advancement of member States for seven decades. Yet, as the global situation evolves ever more complex and unpredictable, the UN increasingly needs more robust and effective institutions. As such, United Nations need to be reformed. In our opinion, the UN reform must be comprehensive, transparent, inclusive and balanced and pursued in an effective and accountable manner. Among other reforms, we must also reform the Security Council, so that it can be a more democratic and representative organ, by expanding both the permanent and non permanent membership of the Council, taking into account interest of both developing and developed member States of the United Nations, in order that it will be able to better preserve and promote international peace and security. *ml*

**Framework Document**  
For inputs from Member States

Issues of categories of membership; the question of the veto; regional representation; size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council; and the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

a) Categories of membership:

- Permanent members - a total of (...) <sup>1</sup> seats
  - The People's Republic of China, France, The Russian Federation, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The United States of America
  - [In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats..]
- Non-permanent members with a two-year term - a total of (...) seats
  - [In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for seats..]
- [Any new category..]
  - [In the event of possible expansion, description of an election process for new seats..]

b) Regional representation:

- [-]

c) (i) The size of an enlarged Security Council- a total of (...)seats

(ii) Working methods of the Council:

- [-]

d) The question of the veto:

- [-]

e) Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly:

- [-]

• Any other related matters<sup>2</sup>:

- [-]

<sup>1</sup> "[...]" denotes a space intended for numerical values whereas "[...]" is intended for the inclusion of text.

<sup>2</sup> Placeholder for Member States who may wish to address other related matters necessitated by enlargement.



THE REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS

April 16, 2015

Dear Ambassador Rattray:

Thank you for your commitment to advancing a member-state driven process to seek broad consensus on Security Council reform through an open, inclusive, and transparent approach, under the 62/557 framework. I appreciated the opportunity member states had to participate in the briefings that you convened on February 11 and March 26, and welcome continuing discussions with you and fellow member states at the IGN.

The United States would like to furnish the following points in response to your March 26 request for input on our views on Security Council reform:

- The United States is open in principle to a modest expansion of both permanent and non-permanent members, though any consideration of an expansion of permanent members must take into account the ability and willingness of countries to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and to the other purposes of the United Nations. We believe that consideration of new permanent members must be country-specific in nature. We remain opposed to any alteration or expansion of the veto.
- The United States is committed to continued engagement with other UN member states on Security Council reform, and we believe that the IGN is the most appropriate forum for these discussions. It is critical that any reform proposal enjoy broad consensus among member states. Though we believe that the Council should deepen its exploration of how its working methods can be made more inclusive and transparent, the Charter is clear that the Security Council must remain the master of its own rules and procedures.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Power", written in a cursive style.

Samantha Power  
Ambassador

Ambassador Courtenay Rattray, Chairman  
Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security  
Council Reform,  
767 Third Avenue  
New York, NY, 10017.

**Excellency,**

**With reference to the letter of the President of the General Assembly dated 27 March 2015, circulating your letter and its annexes ("*Framework Paper*" and speaking points), wherein you have requested providing you with the positions of Member States on the question of Security Council reform in respect of the five Key Issues of the reform.**

**In this regard, I am pleased to write to Your Excellency on behalf of the Arab Group, and would like to indicate the following:**

**The Arab Group reaffirms that the Intergovernmental Negotiations is the only forum for reaching an agreement on the expansion of membership and reform of the Security Council, in accordance to General Assembly Decision 62/557, establishing the basis of the negotiations, and affirming its ownership by member states. This is in addition to the importance of the interconnectedness of all substantive issues of the negotiations, and their having common elements. This proves the futility of seeking partial solutions, and stresses the essentiality of reaching a comprehensive solution for the reform of the Security Council, according to General Assembly Decision 62/557, that shall enjoy the widest political acceptance, in order to preserve the unity of the general membership of the Organization.**

**The Arab Group also wishes to emphasize that the Intergovernmental Negotiations is based on positions and proposals by the Member States, as stipulated by General Assembly decision 62/557, which was unanimously adopted. Therefore, any streamlining of the positions and proposals of the Member States concerning the expansion of the membership and the reform of the Security Council should be agreed upon by all the states and groups that presented the proposals.**

**There is a need to reach an agreement first, concerning the principles and criteria that will govern the negotiations relating to the five issues stipulated by General Assembly Decision 62/557, before embarking on any drafting process that entails the merging of positions and proposals of Member States, with a view to achieve the highest level of clarity concerning the procedural issues before moving along to the following phase of substantive aspects.**

**Hence, the position of the Arab Group is the same, as listed in the compiled negotiating text (Rev.2), demanding a permanent Arab representation in any future expansion of the permanent seats category in the Security Council.**

**The Arab Group also stresses the importance of taking into account the appropriate representation of all geographic and regional groups in the Security Council. Here we would like to point out that the Arab Group represent a population of about 350 million people, and comprises 22 Member States, equivalent to 12% of the entire UN membership, and despite of this, the Arab Group is not represented in the category of states with permanent seats in the Council. Therefore, we would like to emphasize that the size of an enlarged Security Council need to have the geographic and regional groups appropriately represented in both categories of its membership.**

**Since, enhancing and developing the working methods and procedures of the Security Council, to bring about greater effectiveness and transparency in its work, has become necessary. Therefore, agreeing on permanent rules of procedure, instead of the provisional ones, that has been used for decades, must be considered, as well as, increasing the number of sessions the Security Council holds, that are open to all Member States. Furthermore, a role must be found for concerned states in the process of decision making on issues of concern addressed by the Council. Such**

**sessions should provide genuine opportunities for the participation of the general membership in the ongoing debates of the Security Council. The number of closed sessions and consultations must be reduced to a minimum level, thus, holding such sessions become extraordinary. The resolutions and statements under discussion by the Security Council, must also become available to, and consulted with the concerned states, in addition to the participation of those states in the discussion of issues in the Security Council that concern them, in accordance with Article 31 of the UN Charter.**

**The arbitrariness in the use of the veto right, by the five permanent members of the Council, has contributed in many cases to undermining the credibility of the decision-making process in the Council. It also led in some cases, to paralyzing and preventing the Security Council from discharging its primary responsibilities, in taking appropriate measures for the maintenance of international peace and security. The use of the veto by the permanent members over the past years, has reflected the keenness of these states to use the veto right to defend their own narrow national interests or the interests of their allies.**

**The Arab Group also affirms the need to deal with the veto right issue from a comprehensive perspective, that includes all the key issues, according to General Assembly Decision 62/557, and the need for this issue to remain part and parcel of the Intergovernmental Negotiations.**

**As a main UN body, the General Assembly undertakes multiple and important roles at all levels, including providing recommendations to the Security Council on matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, according to Article 11 of the Charter. Therefore, the question of Security Council reform should be addressed within a comprehensive vision, that aims to continue the reform process of all United Nations bodies, and aspire to**



**bring about further integration and equilibrium to the work of the Organization, and the need to focus on the relationship between the Security Council and other UN bodies, such as the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, without encroaching on their purviews, and ascertain that the role of the Security Council is limited to performing the tasks assigned to it by the Charter of the United Nations, which is the maintenance of international peace and security.**

**H.E. Ambassador Courtenay Rattray  
Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the UN  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform**

1 مايو 2015

سعادة السفير/ كورتني رتراي  
مندوب جامايكا الدائم لدى الأمم المتحدة  
رئيس المفاوضات الحكومية الدولية بشأن مسألة إصلاح مجلس الأمن،

بالإشارة إلى رسالة رئيس الجمعية العامة المؤرخة في 27 مارس 2015 ، والمرفق بها رسالتكم ومرفقاتها (الورقة الإطارية و نقاط الحديث) ، التي طلبتم من خلالها تزويدكم بمواقف الدول الأعضاء حول مسألة إصلاح مجلس الأمن وفقاً لعناصر الإصلاح الخمسة.

يسرني أن أكتب إليكم بالنيابة عن المجموعة العربية ، التي تود الإشارة إلى ما يلي:

التأكيد على أن المفاوضات الحكومية تعد بمثابة المحفل الوحيد للتوصل إلى اتفاق حول توسيع واصلاح مجلس الامن وفقاً لمقرر الجمعية العامة 557/62 الذي وضع أسس المفاوضات، وأكد ملكية الدول الاعضاء لها ، إضافة إلى أهمية ترابط جميع الموضوعات التفاوضية ، وتمتعها بعناصر مشتركة ، مما يؤكد عدم جدوى البحث عن حلول جزئية ، وأهمية التوصل لحل شامل لإصلاح مجلس الأمن يتناول جميع الموضوعات التفاوضية وفقاً لمقرر الجمعية العامة 557/62 ، وأن يحظى بأوسع تأييد سياسي ممكن ، حفاظاً على تماسك العضوية العامة.

كما تؤكد المجموعة بأن أساس المفاوضات يستند إلى مواقف واقتراحات الدول كما ينص على ذلك مقرر الجمعية العامة 557/62 الذي تم اعتماده بالتوافق ، وأن دمج مواقف ومقترحات الدول الاعضاء بشأن توسيع واصلاح مجلس الامن يجب ان يتم بموافقة الدول و مجموعات الدول صاحبة المقترح.

هناك حاجة للتوصل إلى اتفاق أولاً بشأن المبادئ والقواعد التي ستحكم المفاوضات فيما يتعلق بالموضوعات الخمس التي حدها مقرر الجمعية العامة 557/62 ، قبل البدء في أية عملية صياغة تتطوي على دمج مواقف ومقترحات الدول، وذلك بغرض تحقيق أكبر قدر من

الروضح فيما يتعلق بالمسائل الاجرائية قبل الانتقال في مرحلة لاحقة الى الجوانب الموضوعية.

إن موقف المجموعة العربية كما هو مدرج في النص التفاوضي المجمع ، يطالب بالحصول على تمثيل عربي دائم في أي توسيع مستقبلي في فئة المقاعد الدائمة في مجلس الأمن.

هناك أهمية مراعاة أن تكون جميع المجموعات الجغرافية والإقليمية ممثلة بشكل مناسب في عضوية مجلس الأمن، فإنه يجب الإشارة الى أن المجموعة العربية تمثل نحو 350 مليون شخص، وتضم في عضويتها 22 دولة بما يوازي 12٪ من العضوية العامة للأمم المتحدة. ورغم ذلك فإن المجموعة العربية غير ممثلة في فئة المقاعد الدائمة بمجلس الأمن ، إذ تؤكد ضرورة أن يراعي حجم مجلس الأمن الموسع تمثيل المجموعات الجغرافية والإقليمية بشكل مناسب في فئتي العضوية بمجلس الأمن.

لقد باتت من الضروري تحسين وتطوير أساليب وإجراءات عمل مجلس الأمن لإضفاء مزيد من الفعالية، والشفافية في عمله ، ومن ثم يجب النظر في الاتفاق على قواعد إجراءات دائمة لمجلس الأمن بدلاً من قواعد الإجراءات المؤقتة المعمول بها منذ عقود. كما يجب النظر في زيادة عدد الجلسات العامة لمجلس الأمن المفتوحة لجميع الأعضاء، بالإضافة إلى إيجاد دور للدول المعنية في المسائل التي يناقشها المجلس في عملية صنع القرارات، على أن توفر هذه الجلسات فرصاً حقيقية لمساهمة العضوية العامة في النقاش الدائر بمجلس الأمن، والتقليل من عدد الجلسات المغلقة والمشاورات غير الرسمية إلى الحد الأدنى الذي يجعل عقدها استثنائياً. فضلاً عن إتاحة القرارات والبيانات التي ينظرها مجلس الأمن، والتشاور مع الدول المعنية، ومشاركتها في المناقشات حول المسائل التي تخصصها بمجلس الأمن وفقاً للمادة 31 من ميثاق الأمم المتحدة.

ساهم التسعيف في استخدام الدول الخمس دائمة العضوية لحق النقض "الفيتو" في حالات عديدة في الدبل من مصداقية عملية إتخاذ القرار في مجلس الأمن. كما أدى في بعض الحالات

إلى عجز مجلس الأمن عن الإضطلاع بمسئوليته، وإتخاذ التدابير اللازمة لحفظ السلم والأمن الدوليين. وقد عكس استخدام حق الفيتو من جانب الدول دائمة العضوية على مدار السنوات الماضية حرص هذه الدول على الدفاع به عن مصالحها الوطنية أو مصالح حلفائها.

وتؤكد المجموعة على ضرورة معالجة مسألة حق النقض من منظور شامل يتناول كافة الموضوعات التفاوضية وفقاً لمقرر الجمعية العامة 557/62، وضرورة استمراره جزء لا يتجزأ من المفاوضات الحكومية.

إن جهاز الجمعية العامة يتمتع بأدوار عديدة ومهمة على مختلف الأصعدة ، بما فيها تقديم التوصيات لمجلس الأمن بشأن مسائل تخص صيانة السلم والأمن الدوليين وفقاً للمادة 11 من الميثاق ، ويجب أن تكون مسألة إصلاح مجلس الأمن وفق تصور عام يهدف إلى الاستمرار في عملية إصلاح وتطوير كافة أجهزة الأمم المتحدة ، والتطلع لإضفاء مزيد من التكامل والتوازن في عمل المنظمة ، وضرورة التركيز على تطوير علاقة مجلس الأمن بأجهزة الأمم المتحدة الأخرى ، وأن لا يتم التعدي على اختصاصاتها كالجمعية العامة والمجلس الاقتصادي والاجتماعي، وأن يقتصر دور مجلس الأمن في أداء المهام الموكلة إليه بموجب ميثاق الأمم المتحدة وهي صيانة السلم والأمن الدوليين.

**المنسوب الدائم**

**منصور العتيبي**



**PERMANENT MISSION OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Ove Dug Hammarskjöld Plaza  
685 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
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*"Uniting for Consensus"*

*N. 1734*

New York, May 1, 2015

Excellency,

On behalf of the Uniting for Consensus Group, I wish to thank you for your letter dated April 14, 2015, which, *inter alia*, includes some clarifications of the questions raised by the UFC in its letter of April 10, 2015. While the UFC appreciates your prompt response, we continue to be concerned about both the "framework document" and the process envisaged.

With regard to the choice of the document that should form the basis for text-based negotiations, we believe that the authority to deem which text is suitable or practical rests solely with Member States. In this regard, we reiterate our preference for Rev-2, which is the only text that until now enjoys consensus as a starting point for negotiations. We must not be deterred by the complexity or the dense nature of documents when the results we aim to achieve are as significant as the reform of the Security Council.

Likewise, in our view, there is no ambiguity that "executive authority" in the negotiating process rests with Member States. Decision 62/557 clearly establishes the membership-driven nature of the negotiations, both in terms of process and content of reform. In addition to being informed that every phase of the process will be marked by intensive consultations, we would have liked to be reassured that Decision 62/557 would be implemented both in letter and spirit. We reiterate our call for full transparency around such authority, or "operational flexibility", which remains a source of concern for the UFC group.

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H.E. Ambassador E. Courtenay Rattray  
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations  
on Security Council Reform  
The United Nations  
New York

Copy:

- H.E. Mr. Sam Kutesa  
President of the 69th Session of the General Assembly
- All Permanent Missions to the United Nations

Furthermore, and as many delegations including the UfC have pointed out, it is imperative to build convergence amongst Member States on the basic principles and criteria of reform. Recognizing that nuances and differences amongst positions of Member States persist, the UfC believes that at this key juncture in the process our efforts should be directed toward developing common understandings and shared approaches that will serve to narrow rather than widen the gap within the membership.

The UfC has always engaged constructively in the Inter-Governmental Negotiations on Security Council reform on the basis of Decision n. 62/557. Our consecutive proposals of 2005 and 2010 underscore our efforts to move the process forward, as well as the flexibility and compromise for which the UfC stands and expects from the rest of the membership. The UfC has also shared innovative ideas on Security Council reform in order to build convergence amongst different views. In 2014 we decided to include in our common position a new category of membership, based on longer term non-permanent seats, with the possibility of an immediate re-election, to allow for fair and equitable representation. At the same time, we continue to support an increase in the number of two-year non-permanent seats, for a Security Council of up to 26 Member States.

Any reform of the Security Council should aim to establish a more effective, representative, accountable, transparent and democratic Council. The UfC believes that an expansion limited to elected seats is the only way to achieve it. Elections are irreplaceable in ensuring a democratic Council that is accountable to all Member States on equal footing. Small and Medium-size states, which represent the vast majority of the UN membership, should benefit from a reform outcome that recognizes their right to vote, to have their voice heard on a regular basis, and not on a single unrepeatable occasion. A democratic reform should address the current imbalance in regional representation, in response to the claims and aspirations of African, Asian and Latin American countries. The UfC is also willing to consider arrangements to guarantee adequate representation to other specific categories of countries, which cut across traditional UN regional groups.

While considering an abolition of the veto to be ideal, we reiterate our readiness to consider formulas on how to best limit its use. The UfC has been a strong proponent of actions to enhance transparency and effectiveness in the Security Council, and of strengthening the relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council. For this reason, we continue to believe that improvements in the working methods of the Council remain an integral component of reform.

This letter, in its entirety, represents some of the key elements of our position on the process and content of the Security Council reform, which we deem as inseparable.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sebastiano Cardi  
Ambassador

