



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 May 2015

Excellency,

Refer to my letter dated 5th May on the same subject, I have the pleasure to forward to you, another letter dated 4 May, 2015 from H.E Courtenay Rattrary, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations and Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Security Council reform forwarding positions of some Member States which were not submitted in the format of the Framework Document for consideration.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam K. Kutesa', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sam K. Kutesa

All Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations
New York



OUR REF. NO.

YOUR REF. NO.

4th May, 2015

Excellency,

Further to my previous communication dated 4th May 2015, please find attached six letters conveying positions on Security Council reform received from Member States.

These positions were not submitted in the format of the framework document and in line with the requests of these delegations they have not been included. Instead, in the interest of an inclusive and transparent process, they are being provided herewith for consideration.

I would be grateful if you would undertake to have these letters circulated among the membership.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Rattray", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

E. Courtenay Rattray
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations
on Security Council reform

H.E. Mr. Sam K. Kutesa
President of the 69th Session
of the General Assembly
United Nations, New York

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

350 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016

TEL.: (212) 655-6100

April 8th, 2015

Your Excellency,

With reference to the informal briefing session of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform on March 26th, 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.

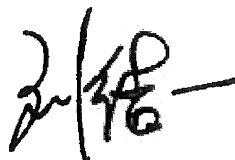
According to decision 62/557 adopted by the General Assembly as well as the consensus of Member States, the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform should be driven by Member States, and the positions of Member States should form the basis of the Negotiations. However, these principles 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
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Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

136 East 67th 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 Кортни 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

Courtesy translation

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.

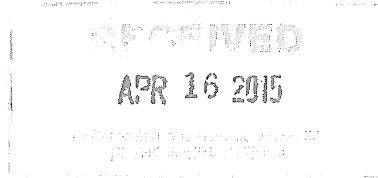
It is important to maintain compact composition of the Security Council in order for it to provide an adequate and prompt reaction to new challenges. The number of members in an enlarged Security Council should not exceed a reasonable level of low twenties.

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

**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

2/3

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 (...) ¹ 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 matters²:

- [...]

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

² 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 its 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 علي 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 حددها مقرر الجمعية العامة 557/62 ، قبل البدء في أية عملية صياغة تنطوي على دمج مواقف ومقترحات الدول، وذلك بغرض تحقيق أكبر قدر من

الوضوح فيما يتعلق بالمسائل الإجرائية قبل الانتقال في مرحلة لاحقة إلى 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 إلى 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 بات 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 عقد 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 تخصها بمجلس الأمن وفقاً للمادة 31 من ميثاق الأمم المتحدة.

ساهم التعسف في استخدام الدول الخمس دائمة العضوية لحق النقض "الفيتو" في حالات عديدة في النيل 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.

المندوب الدائم

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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.

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

