

29 April 2024

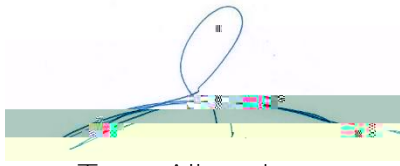
Excellencies,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the question of equitable representation and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other related matters to the Security Council (IGN) during the 78<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly

At the sixth IGN meeting held on 15 April 2024 Member States and Groups of States had the opportunity to express views and comments on W K H 3

received we are pleased to enclose the final version of the Element Paper. The Co-Chairs emphasize that this Paper reflects their understanding of the current state of the IGN discussions on the five clusters

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2 May 2024 at the Ambassador O & KDUJp G¶DIIDLUV OHYHO LQ D  
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an expert. We kindly ask that you RSVP by email [atataqi4@gnia.com](mailto:atataqi4@gnia.com) and  
[lisbeth.strohmeier@bmeia.gv.at](mailto:lisbeth.strohmeier@bmeia.gv.at) no later than Wednesday 1 May 2024.



Tareq Albanai  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the  
State of Kuwait to the United Nations



Alexander Marschik  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the  
Republic of Austria to the United Nations

To: All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations, New York

Enclosure

**Co-Chairs IGN GA78**

**Revised Co-Chairs' Elements**

September 2024.

On the negotiation of the five clusters, the Co-Chairs convened four meetings: 13-14 December 2023, addressing all five clusters in a comprehensive and concentrated manner; 16 February, focused on the question of regional representation, cross-regional seats and the question of a review clause; 8 March, focused on the question of the veto and 19 March focused on the working methods of the Security Council and 15 April focused on the Revised Co-Chairs Elements Paper.

On the structured dialogue on models proposed by States and Groups of States, the Co-Chairs convened five meetings: the meeting on 22 January focused on the model proposed by Mexico, the meeting on 23 January focused on the model proposed by Liechtenstein, the meeting on 15 February focused on the model proposed by L.69, the meeting on 7 March focused on the model proposed by G-4 and the meeting on 18 March focused on the model proposed by the Uniting for Consensus Group (UfC).

On the contribution for the Summit of the Future, the Co-Chairs convened three rounds of -  
they convened an IGN meeting on 20 and 21 May 2024.

In order to seek new academic insights and expand the sources of inspiration for the intergovernmental discussions, and to continue the practice from last year, the Co-Chairs in their personal capacity invited representatives from Think Tanks and Member States to an informal Open House Discussion, entitled on 16 April 2024.

Pursuant to last year established procedure, which was endorsed in UNGA Decision 77/559, the first part of the IGN meetings, i.e. the debate where States have the possibility to deliver prepared statements until the list of speakers is exhausted, were webcast in order to enhance the transparency and inclusivity of the IGN process. In addition, the IGN repository website (<https://www.un.org/en/ga/screform/>) continued to be used and populated with information during the 78<sup>th</sup> session.

### *Background about the IGN*

Within the IGN process, there are several major Groups, representing a set of positions regarding the reform of the Security Council, including but not limited to: the Africa0 G[( )] TJETQq0.000008871

the United Nations to make it more broadly representative, efficient and transparent and thus to further enhance its effectiveness and the legitimacy and implementation of its

## **I. Elements of General Convergence and Divergence**

### **Convergences**

- 1) The reform of the United Nations Security Council is in the interest of Member States and the United Nations system as a whole.
- 2) The reform of the Security Council is a Member States driven process.
- 3) The reform of the Security Council shall ensure an inclusive, transparent, efficient, effective, democratic and accountable functioning of the Council.
- 4) The objective of reform is to make the Council more "broadly representative, efficient and transparent and thus to enhance its effectiveness and the legitimacy and implementation of its decisions", as stipulated by "the World Summit Outcome Document" of 2005.
- 5) There is a growing general agreement on the need for the increased representation of developing countries and small- and medium-sized states, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- 6)

to support a possible outcome that strikes a balance between different interests and positions, while not reflecting in its entirety each individual proposal.

- 12) At the same time, Member States also acknowledged that certain incremental changes to the working methods and functioning of the Security Council in its current form can be made without amendments of the Charter and can help to render the Security Council more efficient, effective, inclusive and transparent in the meantime.
- 13) The IGN process should build on the work done in previous years, so that convergence will increase gradually, seeking solutions that garner the widest possible political acceptance by Member States, as mentioned in Decision 62/557.
- 14) Member States support the introduction of the webcast for the first segment of each of the IGN meetings, namely the debate where delegations have the possibility to deliver prepared statements since 9 March 2023. Member States also support the retention of the second segment of each IGN meeting (interactive dialogues) as closed meetings without

## **Divergences**

- 1) There are repeated calls by a number of delegations, in particular the L.69 Group, the Benelux Group, the Group of 4, and the Nordic Group, to introduce text-based negotiations on a single consolidated document with attributions based on which the IGN negotiations should continue, while a number of delegations, in particular the Uniting for Consensus Group, the African Group, and the Arab Group, advocate for the need to first agree on the principles of the reform – particularly the model of reform - before proceeding to negotiations based on a text. One Member State recalled its proposal to move towards

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Council's accountability to the membership and increase the transparency of its work, in particular through:

2.4.1 Continuing to hold open sessions, open briefings, open debates, informal interactive dialogues, Arria-formula meetings, and regular as well as substantive wrap-up meetings by the presidency<sup>2</sup>,

2.4.2 Continuing the progress in the selection and appointment process of the Secretary-General as an example of cooperation between the Security Council and the General Assembly,

2.4.3 Further enhancing consultations between the Security Council and troop- and police-contributing countries throughout all phases of Council-mandated peacekeeping operations, in line with the





### **3. Categories of membership**

#### **Convergences**

- 1) In an enlarged Security Council, the expansion of the category of 2-year term non-permanent members is accepted by all Member States as part of a comprehensive Security Council reform.

#### **Divergences**

- 1) During the IGN meetings, the following options in a reformed Security Council have been presented by Member States:
  - a. Enlargement of the Security Council in both the permanent and 2-year non-permanent categories; and
  - b. Enlargement of the Security Council with non-permanent seats only; either with 2-year term non-permanent seats only or 2-year term non-permanent seats and/or the possibility of immediate re-election and/or longer term non-permanent seats.
- 2) While there are different views on the categories of membership in a reformed Council, a



Arab States, the OIC and other groups. In this regard, there is significant support for the creation of a rotating cross-regional seat for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). However, more in-depth discussions are needed to clarify questions pertaining to the specific mechanics of nomination and rotation for cross-regional groups.

- 4) There has been overall agreement that Africa should be equitably represented in a reformed Security Council.
- 5) Africa reserves its right to select Africa's representatives in the Security Council, based on its criteria for selection, as reflected in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration. Candidates would then be considered for election by the General Assembly.
- 6) Representatives from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC) and the Asia-Pacific Group (APG) stressed the need for fair representation of their respective regional groups.
- 7) Members States have expressed different views with regard to the distribution of additional seats among the regional groups, but the majority of proposals call for the distribution of additional seats, whether non-permanent or permanent, to entail no less than 3 additional seats for African States, 3 for Asia-Pacific States, 2 for Latin American and Caribbean States, 1 for Western European and Other States, 1 for Eastern European States, 1 for Arab States and possibly 1 rotating cross-regional seat for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The concrete models presented during the UNGA78 IGN are attached to this Elements Paper.

## **Divergences**

- 1) The appropriate ratio between the number of non-permanent members and the number of countries in regional groups continues to be discussed.
- 2) The UN Charter, in A *In order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations, its Members confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and agree that in carrying out its*

between the principles listed in paragraph d) of GA decision 62/557 with Article 23 (1) of  
*the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the*

## **Annex: Models presented during UNGA78 IGN**

Mexico: <https://www.un.org/en/ga/screform/77/pdf/2023-05-03-ign-cochairs-mexican-proposal.pdf>

Liechtenstein: <https://www.un.org/en/ga/screform/77/pdf/2023-08-01-liechtenstein.pdf>

L.69: <https://www.un.org/en/ga/screform/78/pdf/2023-11-30-cochairs-letter-l69-model.pdf>

G-4: <https://www.un.org/en/ga/screform/78/pdf/2024-02-09-cochairs-postponement-g4-presentation.pdf>

Uniting for Consensus group (UfC): <https://www.un.org/en/ga/screform/78/pdf/2024-02-27-cochairs-ufc-model.pdf>