

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

General Assembly Debate

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters Agenda Item 121

Intervention by H.E. Amb. Zsolt Hetesy Deputy Permanent Representative New York, 30 November 2015

Mr. President,

Hungary warmly welcomes the PGA's decision to organize this meeting and to appoint H.E. Amb. Sylvie Lucas, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg as Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations.

At the same time we wish to express our sincere gratitude to H.E. Amb. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica and his team for their commitment, and for the progress achieved. We also express our appreciation for maintaining a member-state driven process that allowed for real engagement for all delegations, that wished to do so, in an inclusive and transparent manner.

The best way to honor the work done by the outgoing Chair is to maintain the momentum generated during the sixty-ninth session. There is no need to go back to square one, and the new Chair should be able to build on progress achieved.

As the PGA himself pointed out this morning, there are different and legitimate national views when it comes to Security Council reform. The only way to cater to those interests, while agreeing on the much-needed reform, is through meaningful negotiations.

Hungary, not being the member of any of the negotiation groups, is ready to move forward with substantive negotiations without preconditions and calls on others to follow suit. We will need a text on which we can start negotiations. Furthermore, we will need a work program and meetings at regular intervals, producing new and new drafts, narrowing down differences and reducing the number of outstanding issues, as this negotiation does not differ from others.

Mr. President,

While we work on comprehensive reform, the Council and UN Member States should continue to work on the gradual improvement of the Council's working methods and activities. The two processes do not exclude each other. To the contrary, they can create virtuous cycles.

Such recent examples include the GA resolution on General Assembly Revitalization, with new elements on the selection of the Secretary-General. Since this was also mentioned as a positive example today, may I point out that this result was also achieved through text-based negotiations. Other examples are the Franco-Mexican proposal on the use of veto; and the Code of Conduct on Security Council action, promulgated by the ACT Group which is already supported by 106 countries, including nine members of the Current Council. This is already a tangible result, as the Council needs exactly nine affirmative votes to adopt resolutions. We call on other members of the Security Council to follow suit.

The three well-coordinated review processes on peacekeeping, peacebuilding and women peace and security will also give the Council the opportunity to move out of its self-imposed silos. This is also needed to use the windfall of new peacekeeping capacities, generated by the Peacekeeping Summit, effectively and efficiently.

Finally, World Leaders have also agreed recently that peace and security is a clear prerequisite for sustainable development, which, in turn, is the basis for lasting international peace and security. This understanding will have to be translated into new types of improved interaction between the Council and other UN organs. We, therefore, warmly welcome the related open debate in the Security Council to be organized by the UK Presidency in November.

Thank you, Mr. President.