



STATEMENT BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON

AT THE

**OPENING OF THE PLENARY DEBATE ON
THE REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
AND**

**THE QUESTION OF EQUITABLE
REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE
MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
AND RELATED MATTERS**

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

NEW YORK

10 NOVEMBER 2005

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, the General Assembly will hold a joint debate to consider agenda item 9 entitled Report of the Security Council and agenda item 117 entitled Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters to the Security Council.

With regard to agenda item 9, in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 1 of the Charter, the General Assembly considers the annual report submitted by the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 3 Article 23 of the Charter. The Report of the Security Council was issued as General Assembly document A/60/2.

Concerning agenda item 117, you will recall that upon recommendation of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters to the Security Council, the General Assembly decided to continue consideration of this item during the present session with a view to facilitating the process of reaching general agreement.

Furthermore, in the World Summit Outcome Document our Heads of State and Government expressed support for early reform of the Security Council as an essential element of the overall effort to reform the United Nations. Our leaders aimed at making the Security Council more broadly representative, efficient and transparent, in order to further enhance its effectiveness and the legitimacy and implementation of its decisions.

Our leaders also called for adaptation of the working methods of the Security Council to increase participation in and transparency of its work and enhance accountability to the membership.

They further committed themselves to pursue efforts with a view to achieving a decision on Security Council reform and requested the General Assembly to review progress thereon by the end of 2005.

As stated in my letter of 3 November, this joint debate offers an opportunity to Member States to give input to the proposed review. I therefore encourage you to avail yourself of this occasion and I am looking forward to hearing your comments, proposals and ideas.