

26 March 2015

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Sam Kahamba Kutesa,
President of the 69th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Briefing Meeting on the Reform of the Security Council**

**Chair of the IGN, Ambassador Courtenay Rattray
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I take this opportunity to thank the Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations for organizing this meeting. The reform of the Security Council is of critical importance and a key priority during this session. The strong interest demonstrated by our leaders last September and by delegations at our last meeting on 11 February, during which 89 statements were delivered, shows that this issue is of utmost importance for Member States.

Excellencies,

I was heartened to hear at our last meeting the commitment to reform the Security Council and the broad support for moving the intergovernmental negotiations process towards text-based negotiations.

It is for this reason that I encourage Member States to adopt a constructive attitude towards the approach that the Chair will lay out today. This, I understand, will be based on a framework document designed to reflect the various positions of the membership within a structured format based upon the five key issue areas contained in General Assembly Decision 62/557.

I call upon you not prejudge the approach or second guess the contents of a document that has not yet been presented for consideration.

Excellencies,

The Chair and I have been in close consultation on this matter and I know he has developed this approach as a result his consultations and views expressed during the previous meeting.

I commend him for his work and I have full confidence in him and his genuine commitment to an open, transparent and consultative, Member State-driven process.

As the Chair of intergovernmental negotiations, Ambassador Rattray needs our full support like any other chair entrusted with leading an intergovernmental negotiation process. Moving towards a

negotiating text is a way of building mutual trust and creating an atmosphere conducive for constructive engagement and dialogue. Together let us move this process forward.

I call upon all of you to support the Chair in his efforts and thank you for your attention.