



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8 May 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith, a letter dated 7 May 2020, from H.E. Ambassador Lana Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations and H.E. Ambassador Joanna Wronecka, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations, co-chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and matters related to the Security Council (IGN).

The letter informs that sequel to informal consultations with Groups and Member States, the co-chairs have decided to postpone the scheduled meetings of the process until further notice. This decision was taken in light of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and the recent medical guidance from the United Nations Medical Director regarding the ongoing measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and safeguard the health of colleagues.

The Co-Chairs invite Groups and Member States to remain engaged and continue to explore possible options for work continuity.

I avail of this opportunity to express my solidarity with Member States who are fighting COVID-19 and extend my sincere condolences for their loss.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script.

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Poland
to the United Nations
in New York



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

7 May 2020

Excellency,

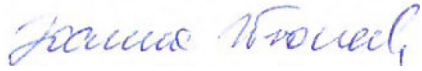
We have the honor of addressing you in our capacity as Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform (IGN). As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the health, safety and welfare of our countries around the world with devastating consequences, it also necessitates that here in New York we adopt flexible working methods to cope with the evolving situation.

In our letter dated 20 March we proposed that the third meeting of the IGN scheduled for 26–27 March be postponed and held in a combined session together with the fourth IGN meeting (originally due to take place on 27–28 April). At the time of our proposal, this plan was in line with the PGA’s announcement regarding the working plans of the General Assembly. However, since the restrictions on all in-person meetings remain in effect at the UN (and according to the UN Medical Director’s recommendation have been extended to the end of June), we are forced to reassess the way forward for the IGN.

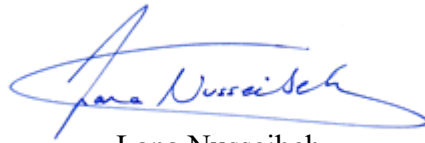
Over the past weeks, we as Co-Chairs held informal consultations with groups and Member States. The results of our consultations show an overwhelming preference for in-person meetings. In light of this, and having considered the pros and cons of other options, we have decided to postpone our scheduled meetings until further notice. At the same time, groups and Member States also expressed a wish to continue our discussions building on the two constructive meetings held earlier this year. We therefore believe it will be important to remain engaged and continue to explore possible options for building on our work. This will be especially important given the uncertainty of when the UN will be able to open again.

We thank Member States and groups for the support expressed for our work as Co-Chairs during our informal consultations. We highly appreciate everyone’s understanding during these challenging times. We continue to be available for informal consultations and invite any further suggestions and recommendations on conducting our work going forward.

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



Joanna Wronecka
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Poland



Lana Nusseibeh
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of the United Arab Emirates

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