

Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations in New York

24 March 2023

Excellencies,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as **Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations** on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other related matters to the Security Council (**IGN**) during the 77th session of the General Assembly in order to provide further details on the upcoming informal informal exchanges ('un-formal conversations'), to complement the ongoing IGN meetings.

As announced in our letter dated 8 March 2023, the first informal informals will take place on 29 and 30 March 2023 and the second set will take place on 11 and 12 April 2023, both at the Permanent Mission of Kuwait, 321 E 44th St, New York, NY 10017. Given the adjusted office hours in some missions and in order to allow for the participation of all delegations in the discussions during the month of Ramadan, the timing for these discussions will be adjusted as follows:

Un-Formal Conversation I: 29 March 2023, 8.30-10.00h

Un-Formal Conversation II: 30 March 2023, 13.30-15.00h

Un-Formal Conversation III: 11 April 2023, 13.30-15.00h

Un-Formal Conversation IV: 12 April 2023, 13.30-15.00h

In accordance with the practice of last year, the Co-Chairs have the honour to extend the invitation to these un-formal conversations at the **Ambassadorial / Chargé d'affaires level** in a 1+0 format.

We kindly ask that you RSVP by email to **f.hajji@mofa.gov.kw** and **raphael.ruppacher@bmeia.gv.at** no later than **Tuesday**, **28 March 2023**, **3 p.m.**

The objective of the 'un-formal conversations' remains to enable an open and frank discussion that will allow participants to freely reflect on some of the ideas and proposals that have been introduced during the first three IGN meetings of this session. For this reason, the

conversations will be held under the **Chatham House Rules** and translation services will not be available. We would also ask delegations to engage in an active manner **without prepared statements**.

The discussions are intended to be as open, inclusive and unscripted as possible, so colleagues should feel encouraged to participate and address any issue they deem particularly relevant. In order to guide, but not limit, our discussions, we nevertheless propose the following broad themes for the discussions:

- Un-Formal Conversation I (29 March 2023 at 8.30 a.m.): Moving forward on the model of the reform

Oconsidering that there are two main models that have been proposed for the reform of the Security Council (one with new permanent members, one without), how should we achieve convergence of positions behind one model?

o Is there a way to bridge the two models? Is there an intermediate model?

- Un-Formal Conversation II (30 March 2023 at 1.30 p.m.): Determining permanent or longer-term members and accountability to the wider membership

o How should new permanent members or holders of longer-term seats be chosen?

 In case of new permanent seats, should there be a regular revision or "review" of permanent seats?

How could we address the proposal of rotating seats for sub-regional groups, eg.
the SIDS?

The topics to be discussed in the un-formal conversations in April and May 2023 will be communicated closer to the dates.

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

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