

Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations in New York

17 May 2023

Excellency,

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.

Kindly find attached a copy of a letter dated 12 May 2023 received by the Co-Chairs from the Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on behalf of the L.69-Group. Upon the request of the L.69, the attached documents will be **posted on the IGN website** which acts as a repository of the IGN process. Please note that one of the documents that was requested to be uploaded to the repository is too large to be circulated, but it will be uploaded to the website. For information purposes, it can be accessed via the following <u>link</u>.

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



PERMANENT MISSION OF ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES TO THE UNITED NATIONS 658 Third Avenue, Suite 1108, New York N.Y. 10017 Svgmission@gmail.com

12 May 2023

Excellencies,

It is my honour to address you, on behalf of the L.69 Group, in your 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) of the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly. We express our gratitude for your leadership throughout the IGN and recognize your commitment to strengthening the integrity, transparency and effectiveness of the process. To this end, we welcome the introduction of webcasting and the establishment of a repository of the recordings of webcasts and documents related to the IGN process, including links to Member States' statements. We recognize this as a vital tool for facilitating greater participation of all Member States, particularly small, capacity-constrained missions that encounter challenges in balancing the competing demands of the numerous UN processes.

Noting the significance of the repository in creating and preserving the institutional memory of the IGN, the L.69 would like to officially request the inclusion of two key documents.

The first document is the Call to Action, which was signed by 35 like-minded states, and circulated to the membership of the United Nations on November 16, 2022. This document, which is attached, reflected renewed commitment to reinvigorating multilateralism, and to joining hands for a more inclusive, responsible and participatory international governance architecture.

The second document, which has also been enclosed, is the *Handbook on Security Council Reform: 25 Years of Deliberations*. This Handbook, which was created by the L.69 and published in 2018, aimed to serve as a practical tool for contextualizing and traversing the journey and evolution of the IGN over a 25 year period. During the meetings the Handbook has been used as a resource by member states, that secured copies when it was disseminated. Hence we believe having it added to the repository will allow it to be a useful reference tool for all.

It is our belief that these two documents will contribute to strengthening the overall utility of the repository and the institutional memory of this process, thereby facilitating equal and meaningful participation of all Member States and preserving the Member State-driven nature of this process, in line with GA Decision 62/557.

H.E. Inga Rhonda King

1. Rhonda King

Chair/Spokesperson L.69 Group

A Call to Action for Reform of the UN Security Council

Joint Statement

23 September 2022, New York

- We*, (*the heads of delegations to the 77th UN General Assembly¹) gather at a time when the world faces increasingly complex and interconnected global challenges.
- We are brought together by the guiding principles of the United Nations Charter and our shared values of sovereignty, freedom, rule of law, respect for human rights and democracy.
- Convinced of the need to restore faith in effective multilateralism, we stand united, as a group of pro-reform like-minded States, determined to work towards a more inclusive, responsive and participatory international governance architecture.
- We recognize that a resilient world urgently needs reformed and effective multilateralism to deliver solutions for the pressing and evolving challenges of our time, – developmental challenges, poverty, climate change, pandemics, global food security, international conflicts and crises, and international terrorism.
- We reaffirm that adapting the United Nations to the contemporary world realities necessarily requires urgent and comprehensive reform of the Security Council, the principal organ for international peace and security.
- We further recognize that lack of progress in Security Council reform has serious implications, not only for the continued relevance of global governance institutions, but also for global peace and security and delivering on the purposes, principles and promises of the United Nations Charter.

¹ Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Brazil, Bolivia, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Liberia, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mongolia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, South Africa, The Gambia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

- We emphasize that a legitimate Security Council must be reflective of the aspirations and perspectives of the developing world, which form the majority of the UN's global membership.
- We recognise that a reformed Security Council must better reflect the contemporary United Nations membership, including through enhanced representation of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), which comprise approximately 20% of the United Nations' membership.
- We reiterate that an expansion of the Security Council in both permanent and non-permanent categories, as well as reform in its working methods, is indispensable to making this body more representative, legitimate and effective.
- We reaffirm our support for the representation of Africa in line with the Common African Position, as contained in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration.
- We affirm the need for a formal negotiation process, guided by the decisionmaking modalities and working methods laid out in the Charter of the United Nations and in line with the rules and procedures of the General Assembly.
- We affirm our commitment to making concrete progress on Security Council, including through a reenergized IGN process.
- We commit to "instill new life" in our efforts during the 77th session of the General Assembly, and urgently call on all Members States of the United Nations to join hands to achieve comprehensive reform of the Security Council.