



Permanent Mission of the
State of Kuwait to the United Nations
New York

 Permanent Mission
of Austria to the
United Nations in New York

23 August 2024

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 78th session of the General Assembly.

We herewith transmit to you a text on Actions regarding Security Council reform as negotiated in the IGN with the intention that this text is incorporated into the draft Pact for the Future. As you recall, it was agreed among Member States that the IGN would provide the language on Security Council reform to be included in Chapter V of the Pact for the Future.

The language attached has been thoroughly discussed by delegations over several months, with **four informal discussions and two full IGN meetings** dedicated to elaborating a comprehensive input for the Pact for the Future. In addition, the IGN Co-Chairs had countless **bilateral meetings to consult with Member States** on the best possible compromise between diverging positions. Throughout this process, delegations have engaged in good faith and in a spirit of cooperation and mutual trust. We are truly grateful to all delegations for their support.

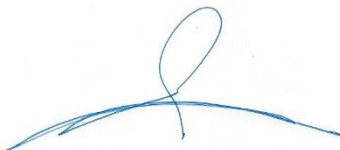
After many rounds of consultations, we have come to the conclusion that the attached text enjoys the **widest possible political acceptance among delegations** and in our view is the **best compromise achievable**, striking a fair balance between the various positions expressed in the framework of the IGN, keeping options open on those issues where no convergences exist yet and enabling the work of the IGN to progress in a forward-looking manner at its next session. Considering the state of play and the different views on this issue, the text constitutes

a meaningful result that contains initial agreements on leaders level on principles and content of the reform of the Security Council, on the further process and on intermediate measures to enhance the effectiveness of the Council before entry into force of the reform. In our view, this package of Actions constitutes **ambitious and concrete progress on Security Council reform** for the first time since 1963 and can be considered as evidence of the determination of world leaders to address this issue as a matter of priority.

We therefore request you to include this text on Security Council Reform in the draft Pact for the Future. The common understanding throughout this process expressed repeatedly both within the IGN and at the consultations on the Pact for the Future has been that the text elaborated in the IGN on Security Council Reform would be **considered “closed” and incorporated as is** into the final draft Pact for the Future with no possibility to re-open it in the negotiations on the Pact.

Thank you again for the excellent cooperation and constructive spirit throughout this process.

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: Co-Facilitators for the Pact for the Future; H.E. Amb. Antje Leendertse, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations and H.E. Amb. Neville Gertze, Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations

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

5. Transforming global governance

Action 1: We will reform the UN Security Council, recognizing the urgent need to make it more representative, inclusive, transparent, efficient, effective, democratic and accountable.

1. In response to the growing urgency to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations' abilities to maintain international peace and security as set out in the UN Charter, we agree on the following guiding principles identified in the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Council (IGN) in accordance with decision 62/557 of the General Assembly as parameters for reform:
 - (a) Redress the historical injustice against Africa as a priority and, while treating Africa as a special case, improve the representation of the underrepresented and unrepresented regions and groups, such as Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - (b) Enlarge the Security Council in order to be more representative of the current membership and reflective of the realities of the contemporary world and, taking into account our commitments of Sustainable Development Goal 16.8, increase representation of developing countries and small- and medium-sized states.
 - (c) Continue discussions on the issue of representation of cross-regional groups, taking into account that Small Island Developing States, Arab States, and others, such as the OIC, have been mentioned in the discussions of the IGN.
 - (d) Intensify efforts to find an agreement on the question of the categories of membership taking into account the discussions held in the IGN process.
 - (e) The total number of members of an enlarged Council should ensure a balance between its representativeness and effectiveness.
 - (f) The working methods should ensure the inclusive, transparent, efficient, effective, democratic and accountable functioning of an enlarged Council.
 - (g) The question of the veto is a key element of Security Council reform. We will intensify our efforts to reach an agreement on the future of the veto, including discussions on limiting its scope and use.
 - (h) As part of a comprehensive reform, the inclusion of a review clause should be considered to ensure that the Security Council continues over time to deliver on its mandate and remains fit for purpose.

Action 2: We will strengthen our efforts in the framework of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform as a matter of priority and without delay.

2. We support the Member States driven nature of the reform of the Security Council, and will intensify our efforts for the reform through the IGN in accordance with General Assembly Decision 62/557 and other relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, such as resolution 53/30. Building on the recent progress achieved in the IGN, including through more transparency and inclusivity and by enhancing its institutional memory, we decide to:
 - (a) Encourage the submission of further models and the revision of already presented models by States and Groups of States for the structured dialogues with a view to developing a consolidated model in the future based on convergences on the five clusters, and the models presented by Member States.

Action 3: We will strengthen the response of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security and its relationship with the General Assembly.

3. We will continue to improve and democratize the working methods of the Security Council and strengthen its relationship with the General Assembly, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers, and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, with the understanding that this should not substitute the reform of the UN Security Council outlined in Action 1. We decide to:
 - (a) Fully implement and adhere to all provisions of the United Nations Charter as they relate to the decision-making process in the UN Security Council, including Art. 27 (3) of the UN Charter.
 - (b) Support credible, timely and decisive action by the Security Council, in exercise of its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, to prevent or end the commission of genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes.

- (c) Actively reinforce the ongoing efforts of the Security Council to review and enhance its working methods, including inter alia, penholding and co-penholding arrangements, and strengthen the cooperation and communication between the Security Council and the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, including the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as the Economic and Social Council and regional and sub-regional arrangements, including by continuing to fully implement and make use of General Assembly Resolutions 377A(V) (“Uniting for Peace”) and 76/262 (“Veto Initiative”).
- (d) Improve the participation in and access to the work of the Security Council and its subsidiary organs for all members of the General Assembly, to enhance the Council's accountability to the membership and increase the transparency of its work.