



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3 March, 2014

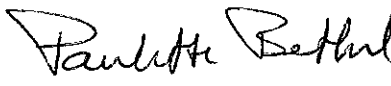
Excellency,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from H.E. Mr. Zahir Tanin, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, in his capacity as Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the equitable representation and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Council.

In this communication Ambassador Tanin informs that, following a process of consultations with numerous Member States and grouping of States over the past few weeks, he has decided to convene, at the earliest opportunity, an initial set of six meetings, based on General Assembly Decision 62/557, to continue the tenth round in the process of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform. The proposed tentative dates and discussion topics for this round are also indicated.

I encourage Member States to actively participate in this round of discussions on this important matter.

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


pp. John W. Ashe

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



په ملگرو ملتوکی
د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوریت
دایمی نمایندگی - نیویارک

**Permanent Mission of the Islamic
Republic of Afghanistan to the
United Nations**

نماینده گی دایمی
جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان
در ملل متحد - نیویارک

28 February 2014

Excellency,

It is my honour to write to you following my previous letter dated 14 January 2014 which announced a period of meetings between myself and Member States as an important step in the process of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council reform.

In this regard, I am pleased to inform you that over the last few weeks I have reached out to numerous Member States and groupings of States to engage in informative and constructive discussions about the process. The aim of these meetings was to gauge our collective readiness to build greater trust and real engagement in the process.

My discussions brought to light a number of important points. Many States highlighted the need to benefit from this session of the General Assembly following its productive start and the positive steps taken by the President of the General Assembly. While all groups were strongly supportive of continuing engagement, many stressed the need to avoid repetition and to have a more constructive debate. Member States also highlighted their expectation that all sides demonstrate genuine flexibility and willingness to compromise. At the same time, they recognised both the importance of text based negotiations as well as the need to better focus these negotiations towards a results orientated outcome.

I continue to be committed to the Member State driven nature of this process and remain impartial to any position yet partial to progress. Based on the input of Member States I have decided on an initial set of six meetings based on decision 62/557, to continue the 10th round at the earliest opportunity.

I intend to devote one meeting to each of the five key issues contained within the decision and a sixth meeting to deal with crosscutting factors which relate to more than one of the discussion topics. Having a meeting devoted to a single one of the five key issues will allow for a more detailed discussion and will spur a more interactive debate and a better understanding of the core of our negotiations. However, we must bear in mind that while we will devote a separate meeting to each of the five key issues, it is important to also recognise and discuss their interconnected nature.

With the texts on the table, this structure of meetings will provide Member States with the opportunity for interactive debate and movement from repetition to more meaningful exchanges. To this end, Member States should aspire to make these discussions fruitful and focused, to come to them with a true spirit of give and take, in good faith, with mutual respect.

The tentative dates and discussion topics for the initial informal plenary sessions during the 10th round of Intergovernmental Negotiations will be as follows:

13th of March On the topic of categories of membership,
19th of March On the question of the veto,
1st of April On the topic of regional representation,
11th of April On the topic of the size of an enlarged Council and working methods of the Council,
23rd of April On the topic of the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly,
8th of May On the topic of cross-cutting issues.

I will circulate a further letter before each meeting with more details on the topic to be discussed, while the time and location for the meetings will be published in the Journal.

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



Zahir Tanin

Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United Nations

Chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the equitable representation and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Council

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Permanent Observers to the
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