



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK**
*Permanent Mission of Denmark
to the UN in New York*



11 February 2022

Excellency,

We have the honour of addressing you in our capacity as Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the question of the equitable representation on and the increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to Security Council (IGN). At the first meeting, held on 8-9 February 2022, Member States provided valuable and constructive feedback on the IGN process, including on ways to advance it during this seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly. We are deeply grateful to Member States for their high-level participation and active engagement, as well as their commitment to the progress of the IGN, goodwill and spirit of compromise.

We also wish to express our profound gratitude to the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, for his presence, guidance, and help in creating the necessary conditions for the IGN negotiations. Allow us to recall some of the President's words from his opening statement at the first IGN plenary session: *"In an interconnected world of evolving complexities, we cannot be static. We ourselves must be able to evolve. The Security Council needs to represent today's world; it needs to be more representative and more inclusive, reflecting the realities of 21st century international diplomacy"*. The IGN process is the forum to advance such an evolution of the Security Council. As Co-Chairs, we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring the transparent, inclusive, and member-driven nature of the process, while keeping with the promise of our leaders to instill new life in efforts to reform the Security Council. As we move forward, we will continue to rely on your trust, ingenuity and flexibility.

Before the first IGN plenary session, we conducted a number of consultations, meeting with any Group of States or individual Member State that approached us, to share reflections and learn from your concerns and ideas towards how meaningful progress in the reform process can be achieved. We listened carefully to the large diversity of views and perspectives that were brought forward during the first IGN plenary discussion, and we reaffirm our gratitude to Member States for their active participation and constructive engagement. We have heard you. In moving forward to the next parts of the IGN process, we have tried to balance the stated interests, concerns and expectations of all parties. Thus, the proposed agenda and current timeline for the next IGN meetings below are the result of careful consideration, reflecting the expectations expressed by Member States, that we allow ourselves the necessary time to carefully listen to and understand each other, in order to broaden our areas of convergence and narrow areas of divergence, while also leaving room for further engagement as needed.

Taking into account that the cluster of *regional representation* was discussed at the first IGN plenary session on 8-9 February, the remaining four clusters identified in General Assembly decision

62/557 will be addressed in the second and third IGN meetings. The fourth IGN meeting will be devoted to a discussion on the status of IGN documents.

We are therefore pleased to confirm that the second meeting of the IGN will be held on 1-2 March 2022 in the General Assembly Hall, and that we intend to hold it as an in-person meeting, fully in line with the COVID-19 mitigation measures regarding the limitations on the presence of delegates in the GA Hall at a given time. The Co-Chairs propose that during this meeting, Member States engage in thorough discussions of the two following clusters: *categories of membership* and *the question of the veto*. The Co-Chairs propose that the first day of the informal meeting is dedicated to statements, while an interactive discussion between Member States is held on the second day. It is the Co-Chairs' intention to share their oral reflections in the next set of meetings.

We are also pleased to confirm that the third IGN meeting will be held on 16-17 March 2022. During this meeting, the Co-Chairs propose that the two remaining clusters are discussed, i.e. *size of an enlarged Security Council and working methods of the Council* and *the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly*. Again, we suggest for the first day to be dedicated to statements, and for an interactive discussion to follow on the second day.


The fourth informal meeting of the IGN is scheduled to take place on 20-21 April 2022 and will be dedicated to a discussion on the status of the IGN documents, and further discussions.

The fifth IGN meeting is scheduled for 12-13 May and will be dedicated to a review of the Co-Chairs' Elements Paper.

We look forward to continuing our substantive discussions at the forthcoming IGN meetings and wish to reiterate that the Co-Chairs remain available for consultations throughout the negotiations.

We also encourage delegations to e-mail their statements to the experts of Qatar and Denmark at ahalkuwari@mofa.gov.qa and sarren@um.dk, as well as to the UN Secretariat at galindo@un.org.

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



Martin Bille Hermann
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark to the
United Nations



Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the State of
Qatar to the United Nations