

The 68th and 69th plenary meeting of the General Assembly during its 78th session under agenda item 63 entitled “use of the veto”

Thursday, 11 April 2024

Summary by the Office of the President of the General Assembly

On 28 March 2024, the President of the Security Council submitted a Special Report of the Security Council to the President of the General Assembly, in accordance with resolution A/RES/76/262 of 26 April 2022. According to the Special Report, on 28 March 2024, the Security Council held its 9591st meeting to take action on a draft resolution contained in document S/2024/255, proposed by the United States. The meeting was held under the agenda item “Non-proliferation/Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”. The draft resolution received thirteen votes in favour, one vote against and one abstention. The draft resolution was not adopted due to the negative vote cast by the Russian Federation, a permanent member of the Security Council.

On 11 April 2024, following the use of the veto during the 9591st meeting of the Security Council and in accordance with resolution A/RES/76/262, the General Assembly held a plenary debate under agenda item 63 entitled “use of the veto”. A statement was delivered by the President of the General Assembly, available [here](#). Representatives of 55 delegations took the floor, including four speaking on behalf of groups of States. The veto casting State also participated in the debate.

The following is a brief summary of statements delivered during the debate.

- Several delegations expressed support for the effective implementation of resolution A/RES/76/262 and welcomed the timely submission of the Special Report of the Security Council to the President of the General Assembly in this regard.
- A significant number of delegations denounced the decision of the Russian Federation to veto the draft resolution, which, inter alia, would have renewed the mandate of the Panel of Experts assisting the sanctions committee established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1718 (2006). It was noted that this mandate had been adopted unanimously for 14 years, and that the veto overrode a text which received the support of 13 Council members.
- Many speakers expressed support for the integrity of the Panel of Experts and stressed the importance of the Panel of Experts' independent, impartial, and fact-based reporting on implementation of the sanctions imposed on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Others expressed the view that the Panel’s investigations lacked impartiality.
- It was emphasized that, while the draft resolution failed to be adopted, the 1718 sanctions regime remains in place and obligatory for all. The Panel’s monitoring and reporting was therefore described as important for Member States who do not possess the capacities to independently verify the implementation or evasion of sanctions. Furthermore, the sanctions were viewed as important measures to ensure the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.
- The actions of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in violation of the sanctions regime, including the launch of ballistic missiles, and the threat such actions pose to regional and international peace and security, were referenced by several Member States.

- Several delegations raised concerns about the Russian Federation’s alleged involvement in procuring weapons and ammunitions from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, in violation of the 1718 sanctions regime. In this regard, these delegations viewed the casting of the veto as an attempt to obstruct reporting on these actions, ultimately undermining efforts to maintain international peace and security.
- Many speakers encouraged the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to engage in dialogue and diplomacy to deescalate tensions and to achieve the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.
- While the majority of statements focused on the situation as to which the veto was cast, several speakers reiterated their positions on the Security Council reform as well as their opposition to the use or threat of use of the veto.
- Several delegations called on the General Assembly, in accordance with its mandate, to consider taking action to retain the functions of the Panel of Experts beyond the expiration date of 30 April 2024.

In addition to the present summary, and when available, a verbatim record of the debate will be transmitted to the Security Council.
