



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

 Permanent Mission  
of Austria to the  
United Nations in New York

1 August 2024

Excellency,  
Mr. President,

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 78<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly.

At the outset, let us express again our gratitude for entrusting us with the role of Co-Chairs of the IGN during the 78<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly and for the support you have provided throughout this process.

We would also like to assure you of our heartfelt appreciation for the support extended to us by Member States during this session's IGN process. Throughout the 78<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, there has been significant momentum and renewed interest in the IGN process, with Member States engaging at unprecedented levels. Their sincere determination to reform the UN Security Council, coupled with a readiness to engage openly and constructively—even on proposals that do not reflect their national positions—has been evident. An honest commitment to building convergences of positions has marked this session. Almost 100 Member States delivered statements, including those on behalf of Groups of States, during the 8 open meetings, 8 closed interactive dialogues, and 5 "unformal" (Taxel Talks) meetings held between December and June 2024.

### ***Progress achieved this session***

This year, we successfully implemented the recommendation for the Co-Chairs to conduct a **structured dialogue on models proposed by States and Groups** submitted to the Co-Chairs and documented on the repository website. This session saw the submission and discussion of five models, and we encourage Member States that have not yet submitted models to do so. We also encourage those that have already submitted to continue revising their models.

By leading in-depth discussions on these individual models, we enabled a better understanding of the different concepts, their impacts, and consequences. This approach proved to be highly beneficial, as it assists States in converging around a conceptual approach that could garner the widest possible acceptance for the reform of the Security Council. Additionally, this structured dialogue allows Member States to merge elements from other models into their own proposals, fostering a more collaborative and integrative process. Member States and Groups of States that submitted specific models had the opportunity to reassess and possibly adjust their proposals based on the reactions and comments of others. The model discussions initiative received positive feedback from Member States, who found it to be a useful and constructive process. Particularly, we would like to extend our gratitude to Mexico, Liechtenstein, L.69, G-4, and Uniting for Consensus for their valuable submissions of models to this session.

As part of the efforts to foster deeper engagement and gather comprehensive perspectives on the reform of the UN Security Council, the **Co-Chairs undertook visits to seven capitals during the 78<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly** upon the invitation of States and Groups of States. The Co-Chairs met with governments at the political and senior officials level to discuss their positions, as well as, in most instances, with local think tanks. These visits allowed for in-depth, face-to-face dialogues that were instrumental in understanding the perspectives of various Member States. The discussions held during these visits provided valuable insights that facilitated a more nuanced approach to the negotiations and reflected the robust engagement at the national level. This level of engagement underscores the commitment of Member States to the reform process and highlights the importance of direct communication in building consensus and advancing the objectives of the IGN.

Additionally, we continued to employ **innovative approaches** to instill energy into the IGN process, in full conformity with General Assembly Decision 62/557, like the webcasting of IGN sessions, which has enhanced the efficiency, transparency, and inclusiveness of our working methods. The IGN website was regularly updated with letters, related documents, and presented models, these recorded documents serving as a tool for better understanding various positions. On April 16, 2024, we convened an **Open-House discussion on Security Council reform** with representatives from think tanks, academia, civil society, and Member States. This event aimed to support the IGN process by providing a platform for informal, interactive discussions to generate innovative ideas, identify new approaches to bridge gaps between positions, and help advance the reform process.

What set this IGN cycle apart from others was the Co-Chairs' facilitation of the **IGN contribution to the Pact of the Future** to be adopted at the Summit of the Future. The drafting of the IGN contribution for the Pact of the Future allowed Member States to thoroughly discuss and refine their positions, which proved to be a highly beneficial exercise. The engagement in these discussions facilitated a deeper understanding and collaboration among Member States, and we thank all delegations for their continued engagement. Final discussions are ongoing and the Co-Chairs will submit the IGN contribution to the Pact for the Future to the Co-Facilitators of the Pact for the Future as soon as possible, on the understanding reached in the IGN that the text submitted to the Co-Facilitators will be integrated into the Pact without change and will not be opened in the context of any negotiations in the finalization and adoption of the Pact in September.

### ***Revised Co-Chairs Elements Paper***

The Co-Chairs circulated to Member States a letter dated 29 April 2024 containing the final version of the “Revised Co-Chairs’ Elements Paper on Convergences and Divergences on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters”. At the sixth IGN meeting held on 15 April 2024 Member States and Groups of States had the opportunity to express views and comments on the aforementioned Paper. The Co-Chairs highlight that the Paper represents their individual interpretation of the ongoing IGN discussions concerning the five clusters and their interlinkages, along with other issues raised by delegations, including procedural matters and issues pertaining to concerns expressed after the finalization of the Paper. The Co-Chairs' believe that the Elements Paper for the 78<sup>th</sup> session will provide a valuable foundation for advancing the IGN process in the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly.

### ***Way Forward***

In view of the growing calls to reform the Security Council, the Co-Chairs recommend that the work from this session be **rolled over to the 79th session of the General Assembly**. We recognize the significant positive feedback and support from Member States and propose the continuation of the following practices to enhance progress:

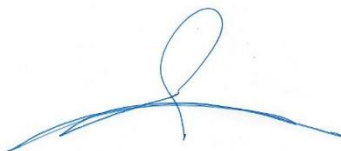
Firstly, negotiations aimed at reinforcing and building convergences should continue. To further increase the understanding of positions and foster convergences among IGN participants, **all issues within the five clusters** mentioned in paragraph (e)(ii) of UNGA Decision 62/557 should be addressed comprehensively. Several Member States underlined the

fact that the five clusters were intrinsically interlinked and should be addressed together. As the IGN Meetings during the 78<sup>th</sup> Session showed, this approach better illuminates the connections among the clusters and enables a more cohesive understanding and agreement among Member States.

Secondly, we recommend the **continuation of the structured dialogue on models** proposed by States and Groups, in line with the IGN input to the Summit of the Future. The structured dialogues on models have proven to be fruitful this year and have enhanced the understanding of each other's positions. These discussions can help States converge around a conceptual approach that enjoys the widest possible acceptance for the reform of the Security Council. Additionally, it allows Member States and Groups that have proposed specific models to reassess and adjust their proposals based on the reactions and comments from others. We encourage Member States and Groups to submit further proposals to the Co-Chairs for circulation and publication on the repository website. By continuing this practice, we believe the IGN process will lead to more meaningful progress in the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly in the direction of a consolidated model in a concrete and accelerated way.

In summary, the Co-Chairs recommend rolling over the work from this session to the 79<sup>th</sup> session, continuing negotiations to build convergences, and engaging in structured dialogue on proposed models. Additionally, the valuable experience gained from the ongoing negotiations on the Pact of the Future should inspire Member States to remain flexible and collaborative in their efforts moving forward. This approach will undoubtedly contribute to a more robust and effective reform process in the coming session of the General Assembly.

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



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**Alexander Marschik**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the  
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**To:**  
**H.E. Mr. Dennis Franics**  
**President of the UN General Assembly**  
**United Nations Headquarters**  
**New York**