



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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**Security Council open debate on the working methods of the
Security Council
under the agenda item “Implementation of the Note S/2017/507”**

6 February 2018

**Intervention by
H.E. Ambassador Katalin Bogyay
Permanent Representative**

Your Excellency, Mr. President,

Honorable members of the Security Council, Dear Colleagues,

Our common goal is to have a more efficient, transparent, relevant Security Council, which can provide lasting solutions. The integrated nature of today's threats evidently requires that.

Hungary commends the intense work led by Japan as former Chair of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions. Countries currently sitting on the Council as well as the wider UN membership benefits from this recently adopted Note 507, that not only provides the **so far most complete summary of the Councils' workings methods, but also introduces many important developments.**

This is thus **an appropriate moment to reflect on this relevant topic, I thank Kuwait for providing us the very timely opportunity.**

In order to join forces in trying to find ways and means to form a more effective Council, let me reiterate the views of Hungary while fully supporting the statement delivered on behalf of the ACT Group.

Mr. President,

Hungary acknowledges the efforts towards achieving greater transparency and consistency when it comes to the relationship between **the Security Council and the General Assembly.** We do believe however, that more effective use of current practices and measures are necessary in some areas, such as:

- The Council's annual report to the General Assembly should contain a more analytical, substantive and comprehensive evaluation of its work.
- The inclusion of the topic in the updated Note 507 is a step forward, but there is still room for the Council to continue to expand consultations and cooperation to non-Council member states, in particular Troop Contributing Countries (TCC) and Police Contributing Countries (PCC) and regional organizations.

- We highly appreciate that Mr. Guterres in his letter addressed to the Council on 2nd September urged concerted efforts to prevent further escalation of the crisis in Myanmar – as we support such proactive role for the Secretary General in issues of particular concern.
- We strongly support that the Council increases the number of public meetings, interactive briefings, informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings.
- More wrap-up sessions enhance the flow of substantive information; hence assist the wider membership in better understanding the Council’s positions.
- We welcome the developments concerning the adoption of open debates outcomes and we encourage the Council to take into account contributions provided by non-members.

We believe that the **Council should use already existing tools to prevent mass atrocities** and take into account the results of the 2015 review processes (peacekeeping, peacebuilding and women peace and security). This would improve the Council’s response to atrocity crimes and give the opportunity to move out of its self-imposed silos.

As member of the ACT Group and one of the to date **114** signatories of the **Code of Conduct** regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, we advocate for refraining voluntarily from the use of veto in cases of mass atrocities. We encourage all Member States who have not yet done so to support the initiative.

The **role of the International Criminal Court is vital to end impunity** and bring perpetrators to justice when national criminal accountability mechanisms are not available or not satisfying. The Security Council is given a special role under the Rome Statute as it can refer situations of Non-States Parties to the Statute to the Court in order to hold perpetrators to account. Since the privilege of the Council in the Rome Statute System is significant, the **Security Council should utilize its referral power in a consistent manner to ensure accountability and justice**, whenever it is necessary.

Overall, the Council should also aim for a more clear-cut communication, translating its work clearly to the outside world.

Mr. President,

We would like to conclude by calling for the **fullest possible implementation of already existing, as well as improved measures** that further strengthen the Councils' working methods, with a view to make sure no drawback is possible.

I thank you for your attention.