



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY

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**Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of
the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council**

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Intervention by

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Permanent Representative

Your Excellency, Mr. President,

Dear Colleagues,

Last July the General Assembly decided to continue negotiations on Security Council reform at its seventy-first session. In this respect Hungary warmly welcomes the PGA's decision to appoint Ambassador Ion Jinga from Romania and Tunisian Ambassador Khaled Khiari – as co-chairs of the intergovernmental negotiations. I wish them success, perseverance and maybe even luck in this important endeavor and offer our support and cooperation. We welcome the active engagement of the President of the General Assembly to move the process forward quickly by also convening this general debate.

As it happens a lot in our line of work, this is an area where we do not have to reinvent the wheel, but rather build upon the achievements of the previous Intergovernmental Negotiations, especially this year's. In our view various elements of convergences emerged in all topics, while we recognize the fact that two out of the five issues: 1, the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly; and 2, the size of an enlarged Council and its working methods gained the most traction. These have to be transformed into concrete proposals but work should be continued in all areas, with special attention given to those three issues (categories of membership, regional representation and the question of veto) where the converging elements of the member states' position have not yet been set out in a consolidated, written format.

We should continue to bear in mind the comprehensive, and often interconnected nature of the reform, encompassing all five key issues set out in General Assembly Decision 62/557 of 15 September 2008 (the date of which also demonstrates that this endeavour is long overdue).

We need also to build upon the successful, structured and inclusive selection process of the Secretary General-elect.

Mr. President,

Hungary continues to support the enlargement of the Security Council in both permanent and non-permanent categories, while at the same time we are ready to examine all practical proposals aiming for practical interim solutions as well.. As a guiding principle, enlargement must continue to be based on the regional groups and must observe their equitable representation. In this spirit, Hungary reiterates its call for a second non-permanent seat for the Eastern European Group, which requests stands under any enlargement model.

There are different and legitimate national views when it comes to Security Council reform. The only way to cater to those interests, while agreeing on the much-needed reform, is through meaningful consultations. We should be moving forward with substantial text-based negotiations. Hungary is looking forward receiving proposals from the Co-Chairs for the relevant work program and the schedule of the sessions of the IGN.

While we work on comprehensive reform, the members of the Council could and should continue on further gradual improvements of the Council's working methods. These two processes do not exclude each other; rather they could create virtuous cycles. Hungary as an active member of the ACT Group supports all efforts aimed at making the Security Council more efficient, inclusive and legitimate, I share the view expressed by several colleagues that simply enlarging the Council without further reforms in its working methods could only recreate the present problems. Together with other 111 countries we support the Code of Conduct which constitutes a voluntary pledge not to vote against Security Council resolutions aimed at preventing or ending atrocity crimes.

Mr. President,

More than ever we all need a strong and representative Council which continues to play the decisive role in preserving peace and security on the globe. The design of such a Security Council is not only in the best interest of the international community, but also it is our shared responsibility.

I thank you for your attention.