



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

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

1 February 2018

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

Excellencies, Dear Mr. President, Dear Co-Facilitators, Dear Colleagues,

Let me start by congratulating the two newly appointed Co-chairs of the IGN, Ambassador Lana Zaki Nusseibeh of the United Arab Emirates and Ambassador Kaha Imnadze of Georgia. You inherited a complicated task, in which you can count on Hungary as a long-time supporter of the Security Council reform.

Dear Co-Chairs,

In 2005, then Secretary-General Kofi Annan said “*No reform of the UN would be complete without reform of the Security Council.*”. Much intellectual work has been done, yet when it comes to real progress, the results are mixed.

Today, here we are in the 72nd session of the General Assembly, that not only marks important anniversaries linked to the Security Council reform process, but we are also in the middle of **ground-breaking reforms**, targeting all main Pillars of this Organization, initiated by Secretary-General Guterres and supported by Member States. We firmly believe that the **on-going reform process creates another momentum** for the adaptation of the UN’s main executive body to 21st century challenges. Let us at least try not miss another opportunity. The

integrated nature of today's threats evidently requires us to come up with lasting solutions.

Therefore, dear Co-Chairs, we thank you for your letter dated 17 January 2018, **launching this year's IGN with a new impetus, with a schedule planned well ahead**, in which you ask guidance from Member States on the way forward. We welcome your approach that **takes into account all the important documents** agreed during previous sessions and thus aims to build upon progress already achieved. We also agree with your proposal on delivering short and concise statements and focus on interactive, frank political exchange of views, instead of conducting lengthy academic discussions.

In responding to the Co-Chairs call, **I will not repeat** Hungary's well known position concerning the five clusters of the reform, allow me to reflect on previous IGN documents instead. We welcome the compilation of the work done so far in the so-called "*Framework Document*", the "*Elements Paper*" as well as in *decision 71/553* and we believe those provide a sufficient basis for taking this process to the next level. In our view, we came as far as we could in the exercise of finding commonalities in general, and in particular concerning the **relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly and the size of an enlarged Council and its working methods**. In order to energize the reform process, **it is time to transform the convergences emerged**

into concrete textual proposals. This could then help us in identifying further flexibilities and convergences concerning the areas where more diverging views exist, such as the **categories of membership, question of the veto** and **regional representation.** Exploring red lines and possible limits of political will from the most influential stakeholders remains essential.

We recognize that the question of veto remains perhaps the biggest stumbling block for further progress, however the growing support of member states for the ACT Group's Code of Conduct to prevent or stop atrocity crimes as well as for the French-Mexican proposal on the voluntary restraint of veto power could lead to a longer term solution on this matter.

Dear Co-Chairs,

In our view, a consolidated text would assist us in moving closer to find compromise solutions. We look forward to your able leadership and guidance throughout the process and wish you good luck with your deliberations.

I thank you for your attention.