



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

 Permanent Mission
of Austria to the
United Nations in New York

18 December 2024

Excellencies, dear colleagues,

We have the honor 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 79th session of the General Assembly.

Kindly find attached a copy of a letter dated 16 December 2024 received by the Co-Chairs from the Co-operative Republic of Guyana transmitting the CARICOM model for a reformed Security Council. Upon the request from the Permanent Mission of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations, the attached letter and its document will be posted on the IGN website which acts as a repository of the IGN process.

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

Tareq Albanai
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
State of Kuwait to the United Nations

Alexander Marschik
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Austria to the United Nations

To: All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations, New York



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE CO-OPERATIVE
REPUBLIC OF GUYANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

801 Second Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Telephone: 212-573-5828/29 Fax: 212-573-6225

E-mail: pmny@mission.gov.gy

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The Permanent Mission of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the United Nations Security Council, and in its capacity as Chair of the Caucus of Permanent Representatives of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), has the honour to submit herewith the CARICOM model for reform of the Security Council.

The Mission kindly requests the circulation of the CARICOM model to the wider membership, and its publication on the IGN website.

The Permanent Mission of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the United Nations Security Council the assurances of its highest consideration.

16 December 2024

New York



Model of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Reform of the United Nations Security Council

Categories of Membership

Both the permanent and non-permanent categories of the Council should be expanded, with all new members having the same prerogatives as obtain in each category of membership. CARICOM can envisage a Council numbering in the mid to upper twenties but, at this stage, reserves on the numbers by which both categories should be expanded.

New permanent members should be elected by the General Assembly by a vote of no less than two-thirds of the Members of the General Assembly with due consideration to the requirements outlined in Article 23(1) of the Charter regarding contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the organization, and equitable geographical distribution.

The term of non-permanent members of the Security Council should remain two years, without the possibility of immediate re-election. The electoral process should remain unchanged, i.e., a country must obtain at least a two thirds majority of the votes of the General Assembly to be elected.

CARICOM proposes that among the new non-permanent seats to be added to the Council, one seat is permanently allocated to Small Island Developing and Low-Lying Coastal States (SIDS) across all regions that contain SIDS. SIDS will agree on a rotational arrangement among themselves for filling the seat, with full attention to equity in the rotational arrangement. A candidate(s) presented through this agreed rotational arrangement, will be elected by the General Assembly and must also obtain at least a two-thirds majority of the votes of the General Assembly to be elected.

Regional Representation

CARICOM proposes:

- i. Expansion in the permanent and non-permanent categories for Africa
- ii. Expansion in the permanent and non-permanent categories for Asia
- iii. Expansion in the non-permanent category for Eastern Europe
- iv. Expansion in permanent and non-permanent categories for GRULAC
- v. Expansion in permanent category for WEOG
- vi. One dedicated seat for SIDS to be rotated among all regions that have SIDS. The term of a member occupying this seat shall be two years.

The Size of an Enlarged Council

CARICOM can envisage a Council numbering in the mid to upper twenties but, at this stage, reserves on the numbers by which both categories should be expanded.

Working Methods of the Council

The Security Council should formalize its provisional rules of procedure as well as measures to improve transparency and increase the involvement of non-Council members in its work as appropriate and to enhance the Council's accountability.

Each member of the Council should continue to hold the presidency of the Council at least once during its membership.

The Question of the Veto

The veto should be abolished. However, in the event that it is retained, new permanent members should also have the prerogative of using the veto. There should be no distinction between permanent members with respect to the use of the veto.

While the veto is in existence, efforts must be made to limit its use in situations that constitute a threat to the peace, a breach of the peace, or an act of aggression, pursuant to Chapter VII of the UN Charter. Moreover, the veto should not be used when the Council is addressing matters involving the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole, that is the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.

Relationship between the Council and the General Assembly

- i. The relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly should be characterized by cooperation and mutual support with full respect for their respective mandates. The Security Council should avoid encroaching on matters which fall under the purview of the General Assembly.
- ii. The General Assembly should be strengthened in its role as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations.
- iii. In its reports to the General Assembly pursuant to Articles 15 and 24 of the Charter, the Council should give an account of its stewardship in regard to the prerogatives it exercises on behalf of Member States. These reports should be more analytical in nature.
- iv. Elected members' role in the decision-making process of the Council should continuously be enhanced.
- v. The requirement to convene a debate of the General Assembly once a veto is exercised must continue. Permanent members casting a veto should be encouraged to take part in that General Assembly debate and to explain their positions leading to their use of the veto. If an Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly is convened instead of a General Assembly plenary debate, the permanent members casting a veto should also be encouraged to participate and to explain their positions leading to their use of the veto.

Other Considerations

Any decision taken on reform should have the widest possible support of Member States and at the very least, be in keeping with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/30.

There should be a review of any decision taken to reform the Security Council within 10-15 years of the adoption and ratification of such a decision.

December 2024