



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 1 MAY 2019

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL AND RELATED MATTERS**

**STATEMENT BY CHRISTIAN WENAWESER, AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE,
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Thank you co-chairs for convening this discussion.

We appreciate this conversation, and I will be brief in my comments, as our views are well known - like those of everybody else.

We have proposed an enlargement model that we are very much prepared and willing to discuss with anyone. It foresees the creation of a new category of seats in order to make it possible for States to serve permanently on the Council, and to solve the issue of the veto for new seats in a very clear way: there will be no new vetoes.

We attach very high importance to the issue of working methods and we do appreciate the discussions that have taken place here on the necessity to adjust the working methods. If and when the Council is enlarged, I actually think there is some additional convergence on that, which is a positive development. As you also know, we do believe that the work that is going on outside of this room to improve the working methods is essential and we want to thank our colleagues from Kuwait in particular for leading the discussion in the Council itself. We are a committed

member of the ACT group, who has taken it upon itself to make suggestions on working methods issues. We do believe that this can create a positive political dynamic for this exercise as well.

We also continue to believe that the veto is at the heart of our discussions. We have all accepted the fact that the veto exists by ratifying the Charter of the United Nations. Many of us have done so reluctantly and do not believe that this constitutes a free pass for the Permanent Members for how to use the veto. This is why we have been active in this respect, again in the framework of the ACT group in particular, where we have taken the lead on the Code of Conduct on mass atrocities in the Security Council - and also in our more recent suggestion to have every veto that is cast in the Council discussed in the General Assembly. We will continue that conversation with our partners.

We also understand that this is a discussion on process and I will be brief here, since we have said this in the past. We fully support you, co-chairs, in your task. We believe that you are certainly doing what you can to move this forward. Progress is extremely difficult, but not due to lack of effort on your part. There is a lack of collective political will to drive the process forward, and I think we need to question the fundamentals of this exercise and to think about whether this is really the format which will lead the way to Security Council reform.

But we are here and continue to engage. We understand that others have stopped doing that and if that will be the case for many of us, I think we would have to reflect on alternatives because it cannot be that what everybody holds to be a key issue for the United Nations is no longer discussed.

We have said it in the past, in order to arrive at a concrete outcome we need to have a text, which is one of the most obvious things to say. This is how we do business at the UN. We continue to believe that it is difficult for you to do this but this is where we find ourselves today. Again, we are very open to hearing others and we are always here to support you.

Thank you.