



Statement by  
H.E. Mr. Raymond Wolfe

Permanent Representative of Jamaica  
on behalf of the L69 Group

during the debate on:  
Agenda item 29: Report of the United  
Nations Security Council  
&  
Agenda item 119: Question of Equitable  
Increase in the membership of the Security  
Council and Related Matters

Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010

*Please check against delivery*

Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the L69 Group of countries. The L69 Group comprises a diverse group of countries from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, who are united by a common cause – to achieve, lasting and comprehensive reform of the UN Security Council.

Mr. President,

The report of the Security Council covering the period 1 August 2009 – 31 July 2010, is represents a factual record of the activities undertaken by the Council with respect to the various countries and situations on its agenda.

We have also taken note of and indeed welcome the greater level of engagement between the Council, and the African Union, in particular, its Peace and Security Council. The full engagement of Africa in finding a solution to long-standing conflicts is critical to ensuring that hard-won peace is transformed into lasting peace, security, stability, and sustainable development, throughout the Continent.

We therefore look forward to more frequent, and in-depth engagements, between the Council and the AU, and further emphasis being paid to equipping the AU through capacity building and resource mobilization to be on the forefront of solving conflicts on the continent.

Mr. President,

While the efforts of the Council to improve its working methods and enhance transparency are indeed important, they must be viewed solely as one element in the overall reform process of the Council. Improved working methods though necessary, cannot substitute for the comprehensive change that is required in the composition of the membership of the Council that will render it more reflective of the contemporary global realities.

In this context the L69 Group is pleased to note the efforts of the Facilitator of the inter-governmental negotiating process that has resulted in a text-based document. It is our hope that through further discussions and negotiations, we will be able to condense the document into a more manageable text, as the negotiating process moves forward.

Mr. President,

Allow me also to reiterate the guiding principles that underpin our collaboration within the L69 Group.

The L69 Group supports expansion in both the Council's permanent and non-permanent categories of membership. It is only through such expansion which addresses the lack of representation among African, Asian and Latin American countries, that we can achieve a more representative, legitimate, credible and effective Council.

The L69 Group supports a Charter-based distribution of seats that address the non-representation of some regions amongst the permanent membership and the under-representation of developing countries in both categories of membership, including SIDS, in the non-permanent category. New permanent members should be selected based on criterion established in the UN Charter.

The L69 Group supports an increase in membership of the Council from its current size of fifteen to the mid-twenties.

The L69 Group supports the conduct of a review of the composition of the permanent membership after a period of 15 years to ensure that it continues to reflect the global realities.

As we have previously stated the L69 Group calls for a comprehensive improvement in the Council's working methods which is necessary to ensure greater access and transparency to non-Council Members and the full implementation to Articles 31 and 32 of the UN Charter. We are also of the view that the Council must become more accountable, fair, inclusive, open and consistent in its actions.

The Group is also of the view that there must be

- (i) restrictions on enlarging the scope of Article 24 of the UN Charter;
- (ii) formalization of the Council's rules of procedure
- (iii) improved and enhanced consultations with troop and police contributing countries
- (iv) reasonable restrictions on the use of the veto
- (v) more open briefings by UN officials, debates and meetings,
- (vi) wider and more early circulation of draft resolutions and draft PRST's
- (vii) there must be rational use of sanctions
- (viii) rationalizing of the Council's agenda
- (ix) changes to the decision making process and scope of decision making as one means of making the Council more relevant

The L69 Group also calls for improved relationship between the Council and the General Assembly, including through improved reporting; regular consultations between the Council and the General Assembly, and strict adherence to their respective mandates as defined in the Charter.

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Mr. President,

In closing allow me to recall paragraph 30 of the Millennium Summit Declaration which World Leaders *inter alia* resolved to intensify efforts to achieve a comprehensive reform of the Security Council in all its aspects; and the 2005 World Summit Outcome document in which Leaders further resolved to support early reform of the Security Council as an essential element of overall efforts to reform the United Nations in order to make it more broadly representative, efficient and transparent and thus further enhance its effectiveness and legitimacy and implementation of its decisions.

The L69 Group is committed to playing its part in ensuring that this comprehensive reform is not left to future generations. We must work together to realise a reformed, more representative and more accountable Security Council, in order to ensure that future generations are able to live in a more safe and secure world.