



PERMANENT MISSION OF
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY RAYMOND O. WOLFE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JOINT DEBATE ON THE
"REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL" AND THE
"QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON
AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL AND RELATED MATTERS"**

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Mr. President,

Jamaica aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Permanent Representatives of Egypt in his capacity as Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and Barbados on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Permit me also to express appreciation to His Excellency, Ambassador Thomas Mayr-Harting, the Permanent Representative of Austria and President of the Security Council for the month of November, for introducing the report of the Security Council.

Additionally, Mr. President, I take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude to H.E. Father Miguel d' Escoto Brockmann, President of the 63rd Session of the General Assembly, for his invaluable contribution in advancing the work on the protracted issue of the reform of the Security Council. In that regard also, I commend Ambassador Zahir Tanin, the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan who served as Chair, for his astute guidance of the intergovernmental process during the 63rd session and express every confidence that his re-appointment as Chair during this 64th session will assist in taking us much closer to a satisfactory outcome.

Mr. President,

Charged with the responsibility of maintaining and countering threats to international peace and security, the Security Council remains an essential pillar of the United Nations system. Its work is of tremendous importance to all of us. Its decisions impact on our daily lives, across all corners of the globe. Member States therefore expect that, consistent with Article 24 of the Charter, the Security Council in the solemn discharge of its responsibilities will endeavour to ensure that actions taken on behalf of the membership of the United Nations, conform strictly with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Article 24 also stipulates the need for an annual report.

Mr. President,

The report we have before us, as contained in document A/64/2, as in previous years, is essentially an extensive compilation of the work of the Security Council over the period from 1st August 2008 to 31st July 2009. The report serves only as an account of its many and varied activities. Jamaica continues to maintain that the annual report of the Security Council should contain a high level of qualitative and analytical content in assessing the work of the Council, including such cases in which the Council fails to act, as well as containing the views expressed by its members during the consideration of the agenda items. The continued absence of a methodical and systematic diagnosis of the work of the Council in its annual report to this august Assembly remains symptomatic of its much outdated and discredited working methods which the majority of Member States continue to deplore.

Mr. President,

My delegation also welcomes this debate on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council. We recall that, around this time last year we were compelled to use the opportunity of this debate to call for a consolidation of the gains made with the adoption of the landmark Decision 62/557 on the 15th September 2008. This was based on our strong view that the crucial task for the General Assembly was to move forward in earnest to facilitate the commencement of intergovernmental negotiations.

Unquestionably, Decision 62/557 guided us in the right direction, towards the commencement of the negotiating process, currently underway, and hopefully has steered us away from the cycle of endless consultations and repetition of established positions which had characterized the deliberations of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) for over 15 years.

We have been very encouraged by the efforts of the Chair of the intergovernmental process, particularly in focusing attention on the level of progress achieved in the three rounds of negotiations which have been held so far.

Jamaica also welcomes the oral decision adopted by the General Assembly at its meeting held on the 14th September 2009 by which the Assembly agreed to "immediately continue intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform in informal plenary of the General Assembly at its 64th session as mandated by General Assembly decision 62/557, building on the progress achieved during its 63rd session, as well as the positions of and proposals made by Member States".

We therefore anticipate that the intergovernmental negotiations will resume at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. President,

As noted from the letter of the Chair of the intergovernmental process, dated 16th July 2009, "the third round should revolve around what has commanded the most support from delegations speaking up during the meetings so far, namely the model with an expansion in both current categories including its different varieties, and on the other hand around what needs to be further explored, namely the intermediate model including its different varieties". It is already clear that a vast majority of delegations support expansion in both categories, and therefore it is not necessary to delay the process by seeking further clarification on the intermediate model.

Jamaica continues to therefore strongly support the position that expansion in the permanent and non-permanent categories would be a far more democratic and inclusive manner to address the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council, in keeping with contemporary realities.

Mr. President,

It is also important to note that in statements made by permanent members of the Security Council, who would normally be considered most resistant to the idea of change, there has been general acceptance of the need for expansion in the permanent category, as a means of making the Council more inclusive and representative. The permanent members should therefore be held to these commitments.

Finally Mr. President,

Jamaica continues to reiterate its call for a compilation document containing the proposals and positions of all Member States as the basis for conducting open, inclusive and transparent negotiations, in a very focused, constructive and orderly manner. We believe that this is the best way to advance this intergovernmental process, if we are to avoid the perpetual cycle of repeated positions and proposals of Member States, which are already well-known among us and which will only serve to dampen enthusiasm and put the brakes on the momentum generated over the past few sessions.

I thank you Mr. President.