

PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by

H.E. Mr. Raymond Wolfe

Permanent Representative of Jamaica on behalf of the L69 Group

during the First Exchange of the Seventh Round of Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the membership of the Security Council and other Matters Related to the Council

Wednesday, 2nd March 2011

Please check against delivery

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the L69 Group of countries. The L69 Group comprises a diverse group of 40 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.

The Group is cemented in its firm conviction that expansion in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of membership of the Security Council is needed to better reflect contemporary world realities, and achieve a more accountable, representative and transparent Security Council. These are the principles that we feel should be at the heart of Security Council reform. And we are convinced that the overwhelming majority of the UN member-states think along similar lines.

Mr. Chairman,

At the last round of intergovernmental negotiations held in December last year, the L.69 Group had clearly articulated its position. I am happy to note that our statement was well-received by the African Group. We are encouraged to see that there is increasing convergence in positions between the L.69 Group and the African Group.

We have noted Mr. Chairman, that in your letter of 31 January 2011 you had called on Member States to "make great strides towards a substantive give and take in a more informal, interactive and results-oriented seventh round." The reform-minded L.69 Group welcomes your suggestion. We would like to take this opportunity to convey that we are keen to further deepen our convergence with other equally reform-minded delegations and groups. In particular, the L.69 Group is willing to work with our African brothers in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,

The L.69 Group feels that an approach such as the one we have started is extremely useful. Further, considering our unique composition, we also feel it is necessary to highlight how Council reform assumes greater significance for the developing countries. To this end, I would like to reiterate that the L.69 is essentially inclusive. We share the hopes and aspirations of all developing countries, including small island developing states as well as land-locked countries for getting more regular opportunities to serve on the Security Council. I would like to extend an invitation to all such reform-minded developing countries in every region of the world to join us in our common endeavour.

Mr. Chairman,

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 realize 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.

An all grantes per la pr