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Fifty-Ninth General Assembly  
Plenary  
88<sup>th</sup> & 89<sup>th</sup> Meetings (AM & PM)

**Statement from Bhutan**  
*Date 08/04/05*

DAW PENJO (Bhutan), recalling the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and the Non-Aligned Movement, in their statements on Wednesday, agreed that a better balance could have been obtained if the report had given issues of development as much prominence as security issues. It was important to ensure that the outcome in September did not also result in a similar imbalance. Sight must not be lost of the main objective of the summit, as elaborated in General Assembly resolution 58/291. Issues pertaining to development were of primary importance to Bhutan. As a least developed country, his delegation was deeply concerned that the challenges facing such countries and other disadvantaged groups had received little attention in the report. Given that more than a quarter of the United Nations membership was in that category, the goal of a just and equitable world order could not be achieved without addressing those countries' special needs.

He said that the issue of reform of the Security Council, on the table for more than a decade, had undergone intense and difficult discussions. That reflected, on the one hand, the great importance placed by the Member States in the work of that body and, on the other hand, the urgent need for it to be reformed to reflect today's realities. The argument for reform should take precedence over difficulties in reaching consensus, as, otherwise, it would be another missed opportunity. Given that scenario, he supported the Secretary-General's call to take a decision on the issue before the September summit. Council reform must include all aspects, including its working methods and composition. Small States that had no hope of direct involvement with the Council could identify themselves with its work only if that was carried out in a transparent manner and made accountable to the entire membership. A review clause should be included in any decision made this year on Council reform allowing for a review in 2020 or earlier, as some delegations had proposed.

Reform of the Council's composition should include expanded membership in both the permanent and non-permanent categories, he said. In the absence of any alternative models or proposals, he felt that Model "A" would better serve the interests of the membership, as that provided for expansion in the permanent category to include new members, particularly from the developing world and, thus, bring into the decision-making process countries more representative of the broader membership. In the permanent category, he was convinced that India and Japan, by virtue of their contributions to the United Nations and their capacity to effectively contribute to the Council's work, deserved to be members with the same level of privileges and responsibilities exercised by the current permanent members. He also supported the membership of Germany and Brazil, as well as representation from Africa in the same category.