



633 Third Avenue, Suite 3210, New York, NY, 10017
Tel: (212) 371-2559, 371-2832 (ext. 101); Fax: (212) 371-2784, (646) 738-6143

**Remarks by Mr. Tofiq F. Musayev
Chargé d'affaires a.i. and Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations**

**Intergovernmental Negotiations on the question of equitable representation on and
increase in the membership of the Security Council and other related matters
to the Security Council (IGN)**

Consideration of the United for Consensus group model

18 March 2024

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

We thank you for organizing this meeting on the structured dialogue on the models of reform and for your able leadership.

We also thank the distinguished Permanent Representative of Italy for comprehensive presentation of the model of the Uniting for Consensus group for the reform of the Security Council and for contribution to the IGN process.

We share the view that representativeness and accountability are indispensable prerequisites to guarantee the effectiveness of the Security Council.

Despite differences, Member States could advance on a number of issues, focusing on the areas of convergence, including in particular in regard to the increased representation of developing countries, Africa, Small Island Developing States and Small States, as well as to strengthening the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly and to improving the working methods of the Council.

We believe that the enlargement of a category of membership that is accepted by all Member States might contribute to moving the process forward.

A balanced expansion of the membership of the Security Council, while maintaining the effective and operational functioning of the Council, could help enhance its authority and ensure its greater legitimacy, provided that such expansion is based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution enshrined in Article 23(1) of the U.N. Charter.

We concur with the UfC that the working methods of the Security Council should be reviewed with a view to ensuring flexible, inclusive and transparent decision-making process and enhanced relationship between the Council and the General Assembly.

We note with appreciation that the UfC model provides for all elected members in an enlarged Security Council the possibility to chair the Council during their mandate, as well as includes several practical measures aimed at improving the working methods of the Security Council and its relationship with the General Assembly.

The issue of veto is one of the key elements of the reform of the Security Council, and we take note of the various options discussed by Member States, including the position of the UfC. We are of the view that more in-depth analysis is needed to explore, first and foremost, whether and how the veto poses an impediment to the effective functioning of the Security Council, taking into account possible risks and further imbalances that could be caused by any modifications.

We look forward to further progress in the course of the negotiations, based on the work already done and the gains achieved so far, in good faith and a spirit of flexibility, constructiveness and mutual respect.

Thank you.