

"Uniting for Consensus"
Focal Point

PROT. 125

New York, 13 January 2010

Excellency,

in his letter of 24 December 2009, the President of the General Assembly stated that: "There is a genuine desire by Member States to achieve progress, building on the important work done during the previous session and continuing the negotiations within the framework of Decision 62/557." The Member States of the UfC fully subscribe to this statement, and take this occasion to express appreciation for your constructive role in facilitating the negotiation process with the goal of achieving a comprehensive reform of the Security Council along this line.

The UfC has learnt that you have received requests by Member States to present a draft document for consideration in the informal plenary of the General Assembly. In this context, as already stated in the last exchange of the informal plenary of the General Assembly held on 8 and 9 December 2009, UfC confirms its openness to a document for the continuation of the intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform.

This document should be elaborated in full conformity with Decisions 62/557 and 63/565, the only basis for negotiations. It must include inter-alia all the proposals and positions of Member States in their entirety and all the five key issues in a comprehensive fashion.

Moreover, we encourage you to consult widely with all Member States for the elaboration of such a document and to identify and agree the approach and structure of negotiations thereon. Clarity should be obtained on the methodology of the negotiations. This cannot be a process of elimination of positions: there would be no reason or incentive for their proponents to participate in the negotiations. On the contrary, it should be a process aimed at finding compromises among different positions, that will stay on the table while moving towards one another. In this regard, it may be useful to also identify in the document the compromise positions of various sides.

H.E. Ambassador Zahir Tanin
Chairman of the intergovernmental negotiations
on Security Council reform
The United Nations
New York

cc.: - H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki
President of the 64th session of
the General Assembly

- all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations

The UfC remains convinced that such an approach will allow a reform of the Security Council that garners the widest possible political acceptance of Member States.



The Permanent Representative of Italy to
the United Nations
Cesare Maria Ragolini