



ALGERIA

Statement delivered by Algeria on behalf of the Non

Aligned Movement at the meeting of the Open Ended

Working Group on General Assembly Revitalization.

New York, February 21, 2008

Mr. Co-Chair

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement.

First of all, I would like to renew the congratulations of the NAM to the two Co-Chairs, Ambassador Loizaga of Paraguay and Ambassador Towpik of Poland for their appointment and to reiterate our readiness to cooperate with them in bringing the process of General Assembly revitalization forward.

Mr. Co-Chair

By adopting resolution 61/292 on the 2nd of August, 2007 the GA has decided to establish an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the General Assembly with a specific mandate for the 62nd session:

- 1- To evaluate and assess the status of implementation of relevant resolutions, in reference to its Landmark resolutions 58/126; 58/316; 59/313 and 60/286.
- 2- To identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the assembly, inter alia, by building on previous resolutions.

The NAM is of the view that the OEWG should address the two tasks mentioned above in the same order and that a sequenced timeframe should be defined accordingly dedicating most of the time and efforts of the OEWG to evaluating and assessing the implementation of previous resolutions. To that end the OEWG may need to devote a series of meetings to the various aspects of General Assembly revitalization identified in previous resolutions, including the enhancement of the authority and the role of the General Assembly.

We believe that a thorough evaluation of the Status of implementation and a common understanding of the underlying causes behind any lack of implementation are necessary and constitute, as a matter of fact, a prerequisite if the OEWG is to engage, at a later stage, into the identification of ways to move forward the ~~revitalization process in a realistic and pragmatic manner.~~

Mr. Co-Chair

As for today's meeting, the NAM would like to make the following general remarks based on the two reports of the Secretary General A/61/483 and A/62/608.

First of all, the NAM deeply deplores the late issuance by the Secretariat of the report requested by the General Assembly more than six months ago taking into account, in particular, that the requested update did not require such a lengthy period to be made available to the member States. The membership has, thus, been denied an opportunity to engage effectively in the review process as early as the consideration by the plenary of the item on General Assembly revitalization on the 26th of November, 2007.

With respect to the substance, the NAM concurs with the view expressed in the reports that the General Assembly has played a central role both during the preparatory process of the World Summit of 2005 and during the follow-up period which allowed it to exert its prerogatives and to reaffirm its central place.

The NAM also takes note with satisfaction of the implementation of various decisions such as the reinforcement of the office of the President of the General Assembly, the improvement of the transitional arrangements between the outgoing and the incoming President of the General Assembly as well at the level of the bureaus of the main committees, the valuable efforts deployed by the main committees to improve their methods of work and to rationalize their programs of work. Further satisfaction can be expressed with respect to the holding of important thematic debates and to the improvement of the working methods of the General Assembly.

However, the NAM remains deeply disappointed, overall, at the limited progress achieved on key decisions taken related to the strengthening of the role and

authority of the General Assembly and at the lack of political will to comply with the provisions of the Charter when it comes to fully maintaining the balance among the principal organs, in particular the G.A.

Very ~~few~~^{little} has been achieved to ensure increased cooperation, coordination and complementarity of the work programmes of the principal organs. The Security Council continues to ignore the request of the General Assembly to submit special subject-oriented reports on issues of current international concern, to take initiatives to improve the quality of its annual report and to recognize the need for vital cooperation with the General Assembly on matters related to the maintenance of international peace and security, as stipulated in articles 10,11,12,13,14 and 35 of the Charter.

On the contrary,
~~At the opposite,~~ the NAM notes with growing concern continuous attempts on the part of the Security Council to encroach on issues which clearly fall within the functions and powers of other principal organs of the UN and their subsidiary bodies.

particularly the G.A.,

Mr. Co-Chair

A clear illustration of the lack of political will and commitment on the part of the Security Council to respect the prerogatives of the General Assembly and its authority appears from the reluctance of the Council members to implement, even partially, the provisions related to the selection process of the Secretary General contained in General Assembly resolutions 51/241 and 60/286, though those provisions fully complied with the charter.

The NAM sees in this obstructive attitude and in the reluctance to implement many other decisions, all adopted without a vote, the evidence of the absence of a common understanding among the membership ^{about} of the goals and objectives pursued through the General Assembly revitalization process.

In this regard, the NAM reiterates that the primary objective of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is to continue to strengthen the role and position of the General Assembly as the Chief deliberative, policy-making and

representative organ of the United Nations, including by reaffirming its prerogatives regarding administrative and budgetary questions.

Along those lines, the NAM expresses its readiness to continue to support all ongoing efforts to strengthen the central role and authority of the General Assembly. At the same time, the NAM would like to emphasize that it will continue to oppose any approach that seeks to or could result in undermining the achievements of the General Assembly, diminishing its current role and functioning or raising questions about its relevance or credibility.

I thank you.

