



PAKISTAN

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT

BY

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PAKISTAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

IN

THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/59/L.68
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 53 "QUESTION OF EQUITABLE
REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND RELATED MATTERS"

New York
26 July 2005

Mr. President,

On behalf of Pakistan delegation, I would like to thank you for convening this meeting for the purpose of the introduction of the draft resolution contained in document A/59/L.68 containing the proposal for Security Council reform submitted by the Uniting for Consensus Movement. Pakistan fully supports the introductory statement made on behalf of the co-sponsors by Ambassador Allan Rock of Canada.

2. The Permanent Representative of Canada has eloquently outlined the major merits of the draft resolution. My delegation has also had the opportunity during my statement in the General assembly on 11 July 2005 to explain the proposal. Let me briefly recapitulate the virtues of our draft resolution:

- i) It is fair and equitable. It adheres to the principle of sovereign equality and will not discriminate between member states;
- ii) It will increase the Council's representativeness. The majority of the membership of the United Nations are small and medium states. Our proposal will double the chances of 186 countries to secure membership of the Council;
- iii) It will enhance the accountability, through the mechanism of periodic elections and re-elections. Those States which seek Council membership to represent regions or groups will remain periodically answerable to those regions and groups as well as to the general membership.
- iv) Our proposal is simple. It proposes direct approval of a Charter amendment rather than a complex and uncertain three-stage process;
- v) Our proposal is realistic. Since it accommodates the interests and positions of all Member States. It is more likely to secure eventual ratification.

3. As I have mentioned before, the greatest virtue of the draft resolution submitted by the UfC is its flexibility. It can accommodate, through variable geometry, the aspirations and interests of the majority of the membership including regional groups such as the African Union.

4. We have taken full note of the proposal submitted by the African Union in document A/59/L.67. I would like to submit that our resolution and that submitted by the African Union are fully compatible. Both proposals are based on the principle that each region would be in a position to construct its own architecture for representation on the Security Council. The African Union has called for two permanent seats for Africa with full rights. We see the African demand as qualitatively different from the call in the G-4's draft resolution for six new "permanent members". Permanent members do not represent their regions, only themselves. The G-4 countries are seeking permanent membership for themselves, not for their regions. The African Union has indicated that the two permanent

and our desire for an early agreement on Security Council reform. Such a solution can be achieved through patient dialogue and consultations.

10. Therefore, Mr. President, we must express concern at reports that the sponsors of the draft resolution document A/59/L.64 – the G-4 – will call for a vote on their draft in the near future. Such a vote will be a recipe for disaster – disaster for Security Council reform, for UN reform, and for international peace and cooperation.

11. A vote will divide ~~the~~ United Nations membership exacerbating tensions in every region of the world and thus would prevent the central purpose of the United Nations Charter. The adoption of ~~the~~ G-4's resolution – in the unlikely event that it happens, will lead to a dead-end. It will freeze the whole issue of Security Council reform for many years and oblige the general membership to live with the status quo.

12. Furthermore, in ~~the~~ unlikely event that the G-4's framework resolution is adopted, one can expect a spate of candidatures for permanent membership from every region. The September Summit will then become a lobbying bazaar as countries seek to promote their national ambitions or to protect their national interests. Other reform proposals contained in your draft Outcome Document, Mr. President, would become peripheral. UN reform will become hostage to Security Council expansion.

13. At ~~the~~ same time, Mr. President, a vote on Security Council reform will also change the rules by which we are preparing for the September Summit. Votes could also be called on other controversial issues which are currently being considered in consultative process under your leadership. The final outcome of the September Summit would thus be contested and leave the membership of the United Nations divided.

14. It is incumbent upon you, Mr. President, to avoid this headlong rush to catastrophe. The process for preparations for the September Summit is governed by the resolutions of the General Assembly we have adopted regarding the modalities for our work. Resolution 591291 states clearly that our objective is to promote the "widest possible agreement" on "all major issues". Widest possible agreement cannot be achieved through divisive and controversial vote.

Mr. President,

15. It is incumbent upon you, we believe, to declare that such a vote is inconsistent with rules and modalities adopted for the preparation of the September Summit. Such a vote will be all the more questionable in view of the methods resorted to garner support, as mentioned by the Permanent Representative of Italy. Instead of scheduling a vote, we hope, you will resume the process of dialogue and consultations you had initiated between ~~the~~ G-4 and the UfC and to include the AU and other stakeholders. It is only through such dialogue and consultations that we can reach an agreement that can accommodate the interests of all Member States, be approved by consensus, and stand a realistic chance of securing an early and equitable reform of ~~the~~ Security Council.

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