



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

STATEMENT

**by H.E. Mr. Victor Moraru
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations
at the second informal meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiations
on Security Council Reform**

(New York, 25 February, 2019)

Distinguished Co-chairs,

At the outset, I would like to thank you for convening this second IGN's informal meeting on the reform of the Security Council.

We share the views of the co-facilitators that there is room for further exchanges between Member States about key issues of the reform with the view to explore possibilities of convergence between various positions expressed.

The clusters proposed for discussion today – the categories of membership; the question of the veto and regional representation are central to the entire idea of the reform and deserve extensive consideration in order to clarify positions and narrow down differences.

At the same time, it would be indeed beneficial if all of us, especially interest groups with long-standing defined positions, could make a step further in finding more commonalities and creative approaches by not merely repeating well-known positions, but rather by coming together with openness and commitment that the solution must and can be found.

Distinguished delegates,

The Republic of Moldova has always been in favor of a progressive reform of this main UN body. Our position is framed in such a way that does not preclude any proposed formula, if only that could ensure that the Council is more representative, democratic and accountable and is able to truly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.

On the categories of membership, the Republic of Moldova concurs with the overwhelming majority of Member States pleading for an enlarged Security Council that would better reflect the realities of the contemporary world and would ensure a better representation for Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

At the same time, any expansion must strengthen the legitimacy of the Council and provide a framework in which multilateralism and the international rule of law are fully respected.

The current state of affairs in the Security Council, in our opinion, demonstrates that far too often multilateralism in the interest of peace and the primacy of International Law and International Humanitarian Law are backslidden by narrower and short-sighted political gains, which in the end are not reflective of the goals and aspirations of this organization.

That is why, in contemplating about how many more countries are legitimized to occupy their seat in the Council and which are those countries, on permanent or non-permanent basis, it is appropriate to remind ourselves that all seek to be represented, heard and empowered and none are willing to be left aside.

In that sense, my country's firm position is that all new members, independently of which category they belong to, shall first of all demonstrate impeccable conduct when it comes to the respect for International Law and principles of democracy, especially in inter-states relations.

Otherwise, any expansion will not have another effect than adding numerically to those privileged to occupy a seat in the Council, which we all know, endows not only a degree of responsibility, but also great authority and ultimately – power on international arena.

And here the question of the veto comes into play. The veto in the Security Council is a highest expression of authority used by its permanent members.

On several past occasions, my country expressed the view that this reform provides a unique opportunity to minimize the use of veto rather than creating more premises for its expansion, for we believe, based on past instances, that in many cases the veto can indeed represent an obstacle to balanced and effective decisions for the preservation of international peace and security.

And while we do not seek to question the provisions of the UN Charter in this respect, we do believe that time has come for more accountability in the use of veto.

That is why the Republic of Moldova has signed the Code of Conduct of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group, advocating against the use of veto in cases of mass atrocity crimes.

We applaud the current members of the P5 who have expressed their readiness to give up using the veto in such situations demonstrating their allegiance to multilateralism, accountability and decisions taken in a democratic, transparent and engaging manner.

Having said that distinguished Co-chairs, I would like to highlight again that, perhaps, when looking for answers to the questions about the categories of memberships, regional representation and the use of veto, it is beneficial to look one more time beyond the mere geographical and numerical representation of states.

For the essence of this reform is that the Council rises up to the expectation and to the noble goals of this organization which can only be realized when its members, permanent or non-permanent, in a 25 or 28 or other numerical formula, are first of all accountable towards the international community, abide by International Law and demonstrate their commitment to peace through their own example.

I thank you for your attention.