



United Kingdom  
Mission to the  
United Nations



Mission Permanente de la France  
Auprès des Nations Unies

H.E. Mr Zahir Tanin  
Permanent Representative  
of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan  
to the United Nations

1 March 2010

Excellency,

Thank you for your letter of 5 February 2010 regarding next steps in the intergovernmental negotiations on reform of the UN Security Council.

We are pleased to enclose a joint UK/French paper in response to your request for Member States to submit their positions and proposals for inclusion in a negotiation text. The paper is in line with the UK/French Declaration of 6 July 2009.

We would like to reiterate our ongoing support for your efforts, and our readiness to work with you to move this important issue forward.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to renew to your Excellency the assurance of our highest consideration.

Mark Lyall Grant  
Permanent Representative  
of the United Kingdom to  
the United Nations

Gérard Araud  
Permanent Representative  
of France to  
the United Nations

cc: H.E. Dr Ali A Treki, President of the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly

All Permanent Missions to the United Nations

### **UK/French position on Reform of the United Nations Security Council**

The United Kingdom and France wish to pursue their efforts to ensure that the Security Council is more representative of today's world while at the same time preserving its capacity to take the steps required to cope with the problems of security posed by the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The United Kingdom and France support an expansion in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of members. The United Kingdom and France reaffirm the support of their two countries for the candidacy of Brazil, Germany, India and Japan for new permanent seats, along with representation for Africa among the permanent members of the Security Council.

With a view to breaking the deadlock in the negotiations, the United Kingdom and France support a pragmatic intermediate solution that could provide for a new category of seats with a longer mandate than that of the members currently elected. On completion of this intermediate period, a review should take place to convert these new seats into permanent seats.

It is the belief of the United Kingdom and France that the intermediate solution should be considered further. We are pleased to note that the idea of an intermediate solution has gained increasing support from UN Member States.

The United Kingdom and France are ready and willing to work with all partners to define the parameters of such an intermediate reform as they emerge through the course of the negotiations. They expect significant progress during the 64<sup>th</sup> UNGA. Issues we need to consider during this UNGA include: the duration of the intermediate period, the size and composition of the Council during this phase, and the modalities of entry into force.

**1 March 2010**