



**Statement by Ambassador Munir Akram, Permanent
Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, on the Report
of the Security Council to the General Assembly**

(25 June 2024)

Mr. President,

Let me begin by thanking Ambassador Joonkook Hwang, Permanent Representative of Korea, for presenting the Council's annual report to the General Assembly as contained in the document A/78/2.

Mr. President,

2. The consideration of the annual report of the Security Council is an important obligation, as stipulated in Article 15 and Article 24 of the Charter.

3. The report before the Assembly and today's discussion is an opportunity for the Member States to assess the work that the Security Council which acts on their behalf. It is, therefore, important that the Report provide full information on the Council's proceedings and decision-making processes.

4. While the Report before us provides a useful compendium of the Council's deliberations, it does not illuminate on the measures taken by the Council to maintain international peace and security. The skeletal information provided, can hardly enable the General Assembly to make a considered assessment of the work done by the Council. My delegation continues to call on the Security Council to provide an annual report that is more analytical, reflective and incisive, rather than a mere narrative of events.

Mr. President,

5. Despite recent efforts to improve transparency, much of the Council's real work and decision-making takes place behind closed doors. Member States directly concerned with a dispute or conflict are not allowed to participate in the Council's deliberations, or be properly consulted.

6. The role of the non-members has been further reduced to making set-piece statements at a few open meetings of the Council on mostly "thematic issues". The Council has continued to encroach on the mandates and responsibility of other principal organs, especially the General Assembly and the ECOSOC.

Mr. President,

7. In particular, the Security Council's work on Counter-Terrorism needs urgent reform. The Council has focused on combating Al-Qaeda and ISIS and their associates. The listing and sanctions processes are cumbersome and politicized. Meanwhile, terrorism has proliferated across the world. The Council has also ignored terrorism by extremist and fascist organizations, including the Hindutva groups terrorizing Muslims. It has also ignored state terrorism which is used for oppressing and brutalizing people under occupation. It does not draw a distinction between terrorism and the legitimate struggles of peoples under colonial and alien domination for self-determination.

8. Norms arbitrarily formulated in restricted non-UN entities are transformed into hard law through Chapter VII resolutions of the Security Council. International law and treaties should be developed by the General Assembly or other forums with universal representation.

9. While awaiting agreement on the reform of the Security Council, several steps can be taken to improve transparency and accountability in its work. Such as:

One, the annual reports of the Security Council should be analytical and not merely a compendium of its activities.

Two, there should be substantive collaboration between the General Assembly and the Security Council. The monthly meetings of Assembly and Council Presidents are hardly sufficient.

Three, the adoption of Council decisions should follow open discussions and allow inputs by the concerned States and parties.

Four, closer collaboration is needed between the Council and the TCCs and PCCs, especially during the negotiations on their peacekeeping mandates.

Five, the selection and appointment of expert panels and SRSG's should be made transparently, the balanced representation from the North and South and various regions.

Six, the Council should set up a body to monitor and facilitate the implementation of its resolutions, including those which have been in abeyance for considerable time, such as those to Palestine and Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr. President,

10. Ultimately, a comprehensive reform of the Security Council is essential to provide it greater legitimacy and credibility. Security Council reform must induct greater democracy in its structure and processes. Expanding the number of non-permanent members in the Council's membership is vital to enhancing its representativeness and reducing the dominance of its permanent members. Adding new permanent members will erode the principles of sovereign equality and equity and further paralyze the Council.

I thank you.