



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Statement by Ambassador Darja Bavdaž Kuret, Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations at the UNSC open debate
on the Implementation of the Presidential Note S/2017/507**

Mr. President,

I wish to begin by thanking the Kuwaiti presidency for organizing this open debate. We want to commend you personally and your delegation for the excellent work in the Informal Working Group and the draft presidential notes regarding specific working methods issues. Thank you also to both briefers.

I also wish to align myself with the statement of the representative of Switzerland on behalf of the ACT group, of which Slovenia is a member and wish to add couple of remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. President,

as a member of ACT group, but also individually as a UN member state Slovenia has always advocated that for the Security Council to be successful and effective, it has to be transparent and efficient in its work. We understand that many of the specific improvements regarding working methods have been agreed upon by the council's members and I just want to add how important these improvements are. To just mentioned a few:

- Consultations with the TCCs and the PCCs are essential if the Council wants the peacekeeping operations to be effective and successful. The Security Council needs to listen to the member states that deploy its personnel and address accordingly any open issues. In our view this will make the operations and missions better prepared, carried out, tailored and hopefully shorter;
- we also encourage the continuation of the interaction with the PBC – without a doubt this brings an additional dimension to the table that makes the decisions better informed;
- At the same time interaction with civil society is very important, so we commend more inclusion of these briefers. They can on one hand provide useful and first-hand information from the ground and on the other find guidance from the council's members. We encourage the continuation of such dialogue.

- We strongly support the inclusion of the newly elected members of the council in its work in advance of the formal membership as much as possible and to explore the ways for even more participation. It must be in the interest of all member states of the Security Council as well as of the broader membership to have new members who come fully informed and fully prepared and can start constructively working on day one;
- Wrap-up sessions are of a great value for a wider membership – not all states have the possibility to follow every debate and the wrap-ups, besides giving us the useful information, also provide us with the unique perspectives of the individual member states. We can only encourage each presidency to plan for a wrap up that is as interactive as possible and to include them in the Program of work;

Mr. President,

As the Swiss representative pointed out, there are some difficult outstanding issues where we would like to see more progress. For example the discussion of the GA regarding the Annual report of the Security Council should be more substantive and should allow for an honest exchange of views. We add our voices to those calling for the timely submission of the 2018 report.

The issue of responsibilities of members of the Security Council should in our view be addressed in an honest and transparent manner. We don't believe that the council with the obviously unequal distribution of burden-sharing can be called transparent. All member states should have the possibility to be penholder and that more than one can be a (co)penholder on the same issue. We are happy to see progress in this area and more shared responsibility already. This is a foundation on which the Security Council can build further.

We also call for as transparent as possible a consultative procedure of selecting chairs of the subsidiary bodies. We wish to add our voice to those who advocate for the expansion of the mandate of the Ombudsperson. We believe fairness and due process are important postulates when implementing sanction regimes. Resolution 1904 was an important step forward in this regard and we call for the further improvement of the independence and impartiality of the Ombudsman's office and for the expansion to other sanctions' regime, besides Al Qaeda/ISIL.

Mr. President,

We wish to avoid situations where the council is unable to take decisions, including due to veto. So let me reiterate Slovenia's wish to see a strong Security Council that will be able to take and implement responsible decisions on behalf of the international community. This is why we wish to add our call for the members of the Council and the



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wider membership of the UN to subscribe to the ACT Code of Conduct and to implement it.

Mr. President,

as today's debate clearly shows working methods of the council are of importance to the membership of the organization. This is the primary organ responsible for maintenance of international peace and security and we all want to see it efficient, effective and transparent.

Thank you.