

Statement by

**Mr. Sandeep Kumar Bayyapu
First Secretary**

Report of the Security Council for 2018

United Nations General Assembly

12 September 2019

Mr. President,

We welcome the opportunity to participate in the debate on the Report of the Security Council. We thank the members of the Security Council and the Secretariat for producing the annual report of the Security Council, as contained in document A/73/2.

2. India congratulates Estonia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia and Vietnam for having been elected to the Council for the period 2020 to 2021. We look forward to working with them in a constructive and positive manner.

Mr. President,

3. We note that the present report too continues to be a statistical compilation of events, a bland summary and listing of meetings and outcome documents. The membership of the General Assembly has repeatedly requested the Council that the annual report be more analytical and incisive rather than a mere narration of the meetings of the Security Council.

4. The debate on the annual report has become a ritual and a formality in a long list of formalities. There is a need to reinvigorate this interaction between the most representative organ of the United Nations and its most empowered brethren. The UN Charter itself bestows on the report a profound seriousness as is evident from the fact that there exists a separate provision mandating such a report, rather than clubbing it with the provision for reports from other UN bodies. Hence, the annual report of the Security Council must inform, highlight and analyze the measures that it has decided upon or taken to maintain international peace and security during the reporting period.

Mr. President,

5. It was felt by many that streamlining of the reporting period to the Calendar year would result in an early submission of the report. However, the situation remains the same. A report that is lacking in substance and submitted so late, almost towards the last quarter of the next year does not generate the attention needed for a proper discussion. This needs to be rectified. There should be definite timelines for completing

the report, circulating to wider GA members and holding the debate earlier not towards the close of the session.

6. The 2018 report reflects that only half of the monthly assessments of the work of the Security Council were published. And, statistics for this year, are not looking good. Not even a single monthly assessment has been published so far. From the available information, monthly assessments were issued for all the months from the year 2000 until 2013. The numbers started to decline since 2014.

7. The annual report is also short of analysis on the UN peacekeeping operations, the flagship tool for the maintenance of international peace and security. There is little information on how peacekeeping operations are run, on the problems they face, on why certain mandates are set or changed, or on when and why they are strengthened, scaled down or ended. As most peacekeepers are contributed by non-Council members, who put the lives of their troops at risk to serve the cause of international peace, a better partnership between the Security Council and the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) is needed.

Mr. President,

8. Most of us who have voiced our opinion here today will be dissatisfied with the Council's work and its report, but, under the terms of Article 12 of the Charter, the General Assembly can neither replicate its discussions nor compensate for its shortcomings. Many of the flaws in the functioning of the Council are structural. Its composition is demonstrably out of touch with ground realities. The Council neither reflects nor represents the aspirations and views of the larger membership. Like most others, we remain convinced that the only remedy is a comprehensive reform of the Security Council, involving expansion in its permanent and non-permanent categories.

9. Since performance assessment has become one of the focus areas at the United Nations, the Security Council too needs to prove its credibility and improve its performance.

10. We hope that views and comments expressed by the Member States are given serious consideration by the Security Council.

Mr. President,

11. There has been yet another attempt by one delegation to misuse this forum to spread baseless and deceitful narratives about my country.

12. Such attempts have not succeeded earlier and will not succeed now.

13. The truth is that the delegation represents a geographical space that is now widely known as the hub of terrorism that has jeopardized innocent lives in our region and beyond.

14. We do not wish to dignify such baseless diatribes with a response.

Thank you, Mr. President.
