

## **Statement**

**by**

**Ambassador K. Nagaraj Naidu,  
Deputy Permanent Representative**

**at the**

**Open Debate on  
Working Methods of the Security Council**

**United Nations Security Council**

Mr. President

I thank you for organizing this open debate on the 'Working Methods of the Security Council'. At the outset, I would like to express my delegation's appreciation at the work done by the delegation of Kuwait on this crucial issue in their capacity as the Chair of the Informal Working Group of the Security Council on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.

As an organ of the United Nations tasked with the maintenance of international peace and security on behalf of all member states, the work of the Security Council, and the way it chooses to organize that work, is a matter of interest for all affected by its outcomes.

The edifice of the working methods of the Council is erected on the nebulous expanse of rules of procedure that remain provisional even 70 years after adoption and a series of quasi-formal Presidential Notes. For a body with responsibilities as

significant as the Security Council, the procedure is as political as its politics.

Mr. President,

As the challenges to international peace and security evolve and expand, it is our expectation that the Council will change with evolving norms to match with the emerging challenges. The Council's record, however, has been lagging behind. The working methods of the council have in several cases regressed. Let me make three points to highlight this issue

Mr. President,

Firstly, I want to touch upon the issue of the Council's engagement with the General Assembly. One of the meaningful ways this engagement was meant to be was through a discussion on the Report of the Security Council in the General Assembly.

While there have been long-standing demands for such reports to be more substantive and analytical, more often these reports are filled with the usual factual markers of how many times the Council met and how many debates it had.

Moreover, the manner in which these reports are tabled causes delays in how and when these reports are discussed in the General Assembly thereby the membership losing an important opportunity of engagement with the Council. This engagement between the two bodies needs to be restored and strengthened.

This brings me to my second point which pertains to the issue of the subterranean world of subsidiary bodies.

Over the years we have seen several such bodies being created and tasked with crucial responsibilities such as taking decisions

on listing and delisting individuals and entities from the various sanctions regimes of the Council.

Not only do these subsidiary bodies have varied and custom-made working methods, but they also follow obscure practices which do not find any legal basis in the Charter or any of the Council's resolutions.

These committees undertake their work outside of the norms of transparency and there is hardly any effort to make the broader UN membership or the international community aware of their various decisions.

For instance, while we get to know of these committees decisions of listing of individuals and entities, the decisions on rejecting these listing requests submitted by member states are neither made public, nor are conveyed to the larger membership.

Further, just like the efforts of member states to designate terrorist leaders go unnoticed by the membership, efforts of terrorist leaders trying to get themselves delisted are also going unnoticed.

Thirdly, I would like to touch upon the issue of the Council's peacekeeping related work whose impact is the most visible and relevant for many of us. While it is common understanding that views and concerns of troop- and police-contributing countries is crucial for better implementation of Peacekeeping mandates, what is even more significant is that this understanding needs to be translated into action.

Mr President

My delegation hopes that the above mentioned suggestions as well as those offered by my colleagues will find their way into the rule book of the council sooner rather than later.

I thank you Mr President

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