



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 19 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I am writing on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency Group (ACT Group) regarding the 2018 annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly. The Group, comprising 25 Member States<sup>1</sup> from all regional groups, promotes a more transparent and efficient United Nations. Achieving adequate interaction of the Council with the Assembly and greater accountability and inclusion with regard to the wider United Nations membership is a priority of the Group.

We are deeply troubled by the fact that the 2018 annual report of the Security Council has not been submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration. We recall that the submission of the report is an obligation of the Council vis-à-vis the Assembly under Article 24 (3) of the Charter of the United Nations. We also recall that the Council has committed itself, through several notes by the President of the Security Council, including, most recently, the note of 30 August 2017 ([S/2017/507](#)), to presenting the report during the spring session that follows the reporting year.

The Group regrets that, in spite of our repeated calls through appropriate channels, including during the Security Council open debate on the implementation of the note of 30 August 2017, held on 6 June 2019, we are approaching the end of the current session of the General Assembly with no set date for the presentation of the report. This clearly undermines the ability of the wider United Nations membership to engage in an adequate manner in this process. This is the third consecutive year that this situation has arisen, which clearly jeopardizes the progress achieved over the years towards greater transparency and effectiveness of this process, in particular through the work of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.

We therefore call upon the Security Council to expedite the adoption of the 2018 annual report and to take all steps necessary for its subsequent presentation to the General Assembly during the first week of September 2019. We also call upon the Council to submit the report to the Assembly in all working languages at least two weeks before the presentation, to facilitate the report's substantive discussion. In order to avoid the unfortunate scenario of the past three years being repeated in the future, we call upon the Council to explore ways of strengthening the process through

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<sup>1</sup> Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay.



rigorous adherence to the time frame agreed to by the Council in the note of 30 August 2017. In addition, finding alternative ways to designate the delegation that should be drafting the report could be contemplated.

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jürg **Lauber**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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