



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 1 MAY 2024

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AGENDA ITEM 63 – USE OF THE VETO

DEBATE - VETO INITIATIVE – “ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS”

STATEMENT BY MYRIAM OEHRI, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. President,

Thank you for convening today’s meeting in accordance with General Assembly resolution 76/262, in relation to the veto cast in the Security Council on the draft resolution under the item “Admission of new members” presented by Algeria on the 18 of April. Every veto in the Council falls within the scope of 76/262 and is accordingly subject to discussion by the UN membership. According to Operative Paragraph 1 of said resolution, it is imperative for this Assembly to meet within ten working days after each veto, which in this case was by 2 May. We note in addition the request for the resumption of the tenth Emergency Special Session convened on 10 May and we understand that the General Assembly at that meeting will also be asked to consider a product by the Assembly in response to the veto in the Security Council.

We thank the Security Council for producing a Special Report in a timely and efficient manner and note today’s participation of the Member State who exercised the relevant veto – demonstrating, once again, the relevance of the Veto Initiative. As for previous meetings under this agenda item, we request the President of the General Assembly to issue a summary of today’s debate.

Mr. President,

We note that the vetoed draft resolution discussed today enjoyed majority support from the Council. Said veto has prevented the General Assembly from considering the request of the State of Palestine to become a full UN Member State which we regret.

Liechtenstein has followed the developments concerning the question of Palestine at the United Nations very attentively for many years and remains committed to the internationally agreed parameters of a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict, in particular the two-State solution, in accordance with UN General Assembly Resolution 181 (II) from 1947 to create two States, Israel and Palestine, and that the discussions in the framework of the peace process have always focused on the so-called two-State solution. We are deeply concerned about the war in Gaza – an immense humanitarian and protection of civilians crisis – and escalations in the wider region as well as the public questioning of the two-State solution, which illustrates once again the utmost need for a genuine peace process on the basis of the existing decisions of this Assembly and the Security Council.

While we have not established direct diplomatic relations with Palestine, in 2012 Liechtenstein has voted in favor of the General Assembly resolution to accord Palestine the status of observer State in the United Nations system. Liechtenstein is of the view that Palestine fulfills the basic criteria for statehood under international law. Liechtenstein's position on the matter reflects our support for the rule of law at the international level, as well as our support for a peaceful solution to the conflict.

I thank you.