



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

NEW YORK, 28 JUNE 2022

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

SECURITY COUNCIL – OPEN DEBATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF NOTE S/2017/507: WORKING
METHODS

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN WENAWESER

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. President,

The past year has seen the Council return from many of its COVID-19-affected working methods while searching for ways to bridge the increasing divisions between its members on key files. While Liechtenstein is concerned about the Council's overall effectiveness, working methods continue to be an area of steady while slow progress. We hope that submissions to this debate will inform discussions in the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions. Liechtenstein will continue to support efforts to improve working methods of the Council, in particular through the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) Group, with whose statement we align ourselves today. This includes improvements to the system of co-penholdership and to fair burden-sharing between the E10 and P5.

Mr. President,

The Council should continue to bear in mind lessons learned from the COVID-19 period, including the use of VTC technology where useful and appropriate to improve the inclusiveness of Council deliberations. At the same time the Council should prioritize in-person access for all States, as

well as civil society. Member States should be able to access the Chamber for the Council's public deliberations and there should be timely and regular opportunities to address the Council under Rule 37, with decisions to permit States to speak taken on a transparent and open basis. Some of the Council's meetings on Ukraine, including of historic importance, were not technically open to all Member States. Even though access was given in practice, such situations should be avoided in the future. Civil society should similarly be able to attend Council meetings and regularly inform the Council's consideration of the situations before it.

We are pleased to see that the wrap-up session has become part and parcel of the Council's working methods. The wrap-up is an important platform for an exchange between the Council and the membership. We encourage Council members to ensure the interactive nature of that discussion, and Member States to attend and contribute actively.

Mr. President,

The past year has seen important development with respect to the Council's relationship with the General Assembly. The aggression against Ukraine saw Council deadlock in the face of an ongoing assault on the international order. But we commend the Council's decision to trigger the Uniting for Peace formula the first time in 40 years, and the strong GA action as a result. We are grateful that the Veto Initiative has resonated so strongly in the UN membership and thank the speakers who have referenced it in the debate this morning. We have seen the Council follow-up on the working methods implications of GA resolution 76/262, and swiftly agree to a Special Report, which was a very important occurrence, given that no such report had been produced in 46 years. Going forward it need not be limited to situations in which a veto is cast. We would prefer a more substantive analysis of the reasons behind each veto. But our top priority is a practice of automatic and swift follow-up and engagement, in line with the terms of the GA resolution. It is also essential to have records of relevant Security Council meetings produced as expeditiously as possible in the future, in order to give maximum flexibility for the scheduling of the General Assembly meeting.

Mr. President,

Liechtenstein appreciates the Arria-Formula – a lasting innovation from the 90s that can bring the attention of the Council to understudied topics and voices that it has otherwise not heard. Used as intended, the format can do a great deal to enhance the Council’s inclusivity and relevance. We hope to see the Arria-Formula consistently used in accordance with its original intent and purpose.

I thank you.