Statement by

H.E Ambassador Amr Aboulatta

Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Before the General Assembly


Friday, November 21st 2014
Mr. President,

Egypt associates itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Alignment Movement.

At the outset, I wish to thank you for convening this important meeting. I would also like to thank the Permanent Representative of Rwanda for preparing the introduction of the annual report on behalf of the Security Council's members, as well as the Permanent Representative of Australia for presenting the report.

As the Council is tasked with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, on behalf of the entire membership, we stress, in this regard, the need for the Council to act on behalf of the entire membership as enshrined in the UN Charter, by ensuring to the fullest extent the contribution in its decision making processes. The authority of the United Nations General Assembly should be fully upheld, by ensuring that the Council act in full conformity with the Charter.

We consider positively holding the debate on the report of the Security Council independently from the larger question of the Security Council's reform, with a view to allowing adequate time for the General Assembly to discuss and reflect on the Security Council's work.

Egypt firmly believes that the work of the Security Council should be based on transparency, inclusivity and openness. Therefore, we call for an increased interactivity between the Council and the wider membership throughout the reporting cycle. In this regard, I would like to highlight few points:

- First: we urge for further enhancing the growing trend by the Council to conduct a substantive portion of its work in open format, as 218 out of 238 formal meetings held during the reporting period were public. Hence, it is vital for future reports to provide a better reflection of the contributions by the broader membership to the Council's work including open debates.
- Second: as highlighted in previous debates by many speakers, there is a need for the report to be more analytical, rather than a narrative compilation of events.

- Third: part of the efforts invested in this report should be allocated to assessment and evaluation. A picture of the Council’s work is never complete without a clear assessment of results achieved, as well as shortcomings. We encourage the inclusion of monthly assessments prepared by the monthly presidents in the annual report.

- Fourth: as considerable amount of the Council’s work takes place in its subsidiary bodies, they should also provide annual assessments of their work and incorporate it in the annual report of the Council.

Mr. President,

Egypt welcomes the continuous debate on the Council’s working methods, and will continue to contribute to enhancing transparency, inclusivity, openness, and democratization of the Security Council’s work, as it is indispensable for the credibility of the Council in carrying out its mandate, and ensuring its effectiveness and ability to address the rising challenges.

I thank you.