

Press release

G-4 Directors General for UN Affairs Meeting on 11 February and Outreach Seminar on UNSC Reform on 12 February 2014 in New Delhi

February 12, 2014

1. The Directors General (DGs) of UN Affairs of the G-4 (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan) met in New Delhi on 11 February 2014 to exchange views on Security Council Reform. The last such meeting took place in New York on the sidelines of the 68th UN General Assembly on 26 September 2013.
2. It may be recalled that the G-4 Foreign Ministers Meeting in New York on 26 September 2013 had stressed the need to intensify efforts to translate, at the latest by 2015, the commitments made in the Outcome Document of the 2005 World Summit into concrete outcomes. Following up on the same, the G-4 DG's discussed the current state of play on UNSC reforms in New York as well as the way forward with a view to move the process urgently to text-based intergovernmental negotiations. They underlined the broad support that exists among UN member states for expansion of the UNSC in both permanent and non-permanent categories in order to better reflect the geopolitical realities of the 21st century as well as the need to make the Council more representative, efficient and transparent. They stressed that only through such reforms can the UNSC enhance its effectiveness and credibility as well as the legitimacy of its decisions. The G-4 countries reiterated their commitments as aspiring new permanent members of the UN Security Council, as well as their support for each other's candidatures. They also reaffirmed their view of the importance of developing countries, in particular Africa, to be represented in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of an enlarged Council.
3. The G-4 DG's also called on Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India on 12 February 2014 and reported the progress on their discussions and the way forward.

4. Separately, following from G-4 Foreign Ministers directive on the need for greater involvement of civil society, the media and academia in the discussions about the reform of the Security Council, a one day Outreach Seminar on "United Nations Security Council Reform: Perspectives and Prospects" was organised by the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses and Ministry of External Affairs on 12 February 2014.
5. Foreign Secretary Sujatha Singh delivered the key note address and underscored the need for the reform of the Security Council in order to make its archaic composition more reflective of the vastly expanded membership of the UN. The daylong Seminar also witnessed active participation of leading scholars, media and several members from the diplomatic corps based in New Delhi.
6. The G-4 DGs agreed to continue their discussions leading up to the 2015 Summit, with Japan offering to host the next meeting in Tokyo.

*Navtej Sarna, Special Secretary for International Organizations
Ministry of External Affairs of India*

*Paulo Roberto Campos da Fontoura, Director of the Department of International Organizations
Ministry of External Relations of Brazil*

*Ina Lepel, Deputy Director General for Global Issues
Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Germany*

*Kenji Hiramatsu, Deputy Vice-Minister for Foreign Policy
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Japan*