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PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement  
of**

**His Excellency Dr. Widhya CHEM  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of the Kingdom of Cambodia  
to the United Nations**

**at the Debate of the General Assembly on**

**“Question of equitable representation on and increase in the  
membership of the Security Council”**

**New York  
December 11, 2006**

Statement by H.E Dr. Widhya CHEM  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the United Nations  
at the General Assembly

**Mr. President,**

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the President of the G.A for allowing me to speak on this important item on “Report of the Security Council” and “Question of Equitable Representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related Matters.” May I join other Delegations in thanking Ambassador Nassir Al-Nasser, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar and President of the UNSC for his month for his presentation of the Annual Report of the Security Council to the G.A as contained in document A/61/2.

My delegation would like to associate itself with Statement delivered by H.E Ambassador Rodrigo Malmierca Diaz, Permanent Representative of Cuba on behalf of Non-aligned Movement before the General Assembly.

With regard to the United Nations reform, it is clear that in recent years every member-state in this world body wanted the United Nations to be reformed. However when the opportunity has been given to do so, we are facing a deadlock on this very important issue, because too much emphasis had been placed only on the reform of the Security Council. In this regard, I think that we should learn from the present lesson and try to avoid repeating any mistake in the future. In other words, we should take a step-by-step approach by tackling minor problems first, such as strengthening the role of ECOSOC to deal with development, since this issue is less controversial and there is more inclination to support it. Next, we may consider revitalizing the UN General Assembly as the sole body representative of all member states in the United Nations. Afterward, we can move forward to the reform of the UNSC. We have to start first with issues where consensus could be easily reached, and then move to the more difficult ones, without having to completely stall the UN reform process.

**Mr. President,**

What I have said does no call for the negligence of the reform of the United Nations Security Council. We have faced difficulties to push forward with the reform since our discussion in the 60<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations. Since then there have been many rhetoric’s on the reform, but there has been no real progress yet on it. It remains, however, of great importance that the complex issue of the UNSC reform should be tackled in a comprehensive, transparent and balanced manner.

Thank you