CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT

by

H.E. Mr. Stuart Beck
Permanent Representative

At the Informal Meeting to Consider the Report of Facilitators
On consultations regarding the Question of Equitable Representation
On and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council

3 May 2007
New York
Madame President, our delegation wishes to thank you and the facilitators for the useful and difficult work which has been done on this topic.

Palau was a co-sponsor of the G-4 resolution, and implicit in that co-sponsorship was an earnest desire for the establishment of a Security Council which is more reflective of modern regional realities, and of the role of developing countries in world affairs.

We believe that the Report is useful and will add much needed momentum to the process. Given the fact that a wide majority of countries desire enlargement, we hope that this momentum will continue.

We urge you, Madame President, to appoint two facilitators to distill the options which are referenced in the Report into two or three clear options. Once this sharpening of the alternatives is accomplished, we urge all parties to enter into negotiations on an expedited basis, and to pursue negotiations with a spirit of flexibility and compromise.

As a small state, we applaud the Report's conclusion regarding our under-representation, and we urge all negotiating parties to seriously address this imbalance.

Thank you.