



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9 May, 2014

Excellency,

I have the honour to attach hereto, for your information, a letter dated May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 which the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly – H.E. Frantisek Ruzicka, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations and H.E. Norachit Sinhaseni, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations – are addressing to Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers announcing the convening of the next meeting of the Group on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2014.

Specifically, the focus of the meeting will be on “Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly,” and you will see described the structure contemplated for its conduct.

Since the meeting next Friday will be the last for the current session of the Assembly, after which will begin the phase of drafting the resolution to be presented for the Assembly’s consideration, the Co-Chairs are appealing to participants for an engagement that is appropriately thoughtful and focused. I endorse this appeal.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John W. Ashe".

John W. Ashe

To All Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers  
To the United Nations  
New York



Permanent Mission of Slovakia  
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of Thailand  
to the United Nations

8 May 2014

Excellency,

As a follow-up to our letter dated 10 March 2014 concerning the tentative program of work for the Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (AHWG) during the 68<sup>th</sup> session, we now have the honour to write to you with regard to the next meeting of the Group, which is scheduled for Friday 16 May 2014 at 10.00 am. It will be the fourth and final thematic meeting of the AHWG during this session – and it will focus on “Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly”.

At the outset of the meeting the AHWG, in accordance with OP29 of resolution 67/297 of 29 August 2013, will hear a briefing by H.E. Ambassador Noel Sinclair, Deputy Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the President of the 68<sup>th</sup> session, who will speak on the role, mandate and activities of the President of the General Assembly and share with the Working Group lessons learned and best practices.

The AHWG will also hear a presentation by Mr. Ion Botnaru, Director of the General Assembly & ECOSOC Affairs Division, DGACM, pursuant to OP30 of resolution 67/297 by which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on “sources of the funding and staffing of the Office of the President, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat.”

Furthermore, we have invited Mr. Maher Nasser, Director of the Outreach Division of DPI to brief the Working Group on the Secretariat’s efforts “to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of its work”, including its “working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly.”

As mentioned by the President of the General Assembly in his statement at our first meeting on 4 March 2014, Member States may also wish to comment on how best to identify appropriate ways of capturing and making use, in a structured manner, of the collective wisdom garnered from the experience of those who have served previously as Presidents of the General Assembly.

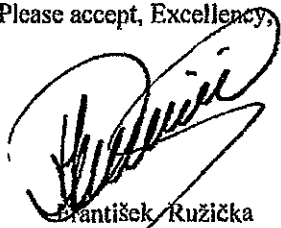
With a view to helping ensure that the meeting develops in a purposeful and result-oriented manner, we would again like to invite delegations to continue to review and comment on the draft updated inventory, which is available at the web link devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (<http://www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/>), and to continue to base their comments under the fourth cluster on it.

As this will be the final thematic meeting during the current session of the Assembly, delegations should feel free to use this opportunity to raise any matter which they consider to be relevant to the Group's agenda and programme of work.

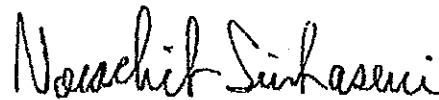
Please note that the meeting will take place in the Trusteeship Council Chamber instead of the ECOSOC Chamber, as originally announced.

We look forward to your active and thoughtful participation in this final thematic meeting of the AHWG, and expect that after its conclusion we will find ourselves well placed to begin the task of drafting a resolution, the text of which we intend to circulate without any undue delay.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



František Ružička  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Slovakia



Norachit Sinhaseni  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Thailand

To: All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations, New York

