8 September 2009

Excellency,

As you will recall the President of the General Assembly H.E. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann announced in a letter dated 20 August 2009 that he had appointed us to be Co-chairs of the ad hoc open-ended working group to follow up on the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development. You will further recall that this group was established by GA resolution 63/305 on Friday 31 July.

The group will be launched during the General Assembly meeting tomorrow, Wednesday 9 September, starting at 11:00 am, following agenda item 48 on the United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development. In this meeting, we will present some options for the structure of the group’s work. These options could provide the basis for reflection and consultation among Member States. We will listen to the views of Member States and proceed to present a work plan in due course.

Though there are hopeful signs of green shoots in the world economy, it is important to remember that the effects of the crisis, particularly on the poorest and most vulnerable, in all likelihood will be felt for a long time to come. The issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference must therefore be addressed in an effective and expeditious manner.

It is a great honour for us to assume this important task. We are looking forward to working with you in ensuring that the follow-up is as successful as the Conference itself.

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

Morten Wetland
Permanent Representative of
Norway to the United Nations

Lazarous Kapambwe
Permanent Representative of
Zambia to the United Nations

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the
United Nations