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Excellency,

**INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE PLENARY ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE  
SUMMIT OUTCOME ON DEVELOPMENT AND ECOSOC REFORM**

With reference to President Eliasson's letters of 3 and 11 November, we are writing to set out our proposals for the General Assembly informal consultations of the plenary on Follow-up to the Summit outcome on Development and ECOSOC reform.

Our consultations will be based on the World Summit Outcome Document, which sets out an ambitious programme. We agreed on this Outcome Document and should now proceed with its implementation.

We should do so mindful of the fundamentally important need to build on the momentum for development created in 2005. As President Eliasson pointed out in his letter of 3 November, if implementation has not tangibly accelerated by this point in 2006, the prospects of achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 might already have been lost.

Implementation is already underway, both within and outside the UN system. Here in New York, the Plenary and Second and Third Committees have been proceeding with their important work focusing on the substance of specific issues and sectors. ECOSOC will of course also have an important substantive task in this regard. It will be important that we respect these bodies and do not seek to duplicate or take over aspects of their substantive work in our own discussions. Rather, we should focus our discussions on two central tasks, which are different but related.

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

### *Follow-up to the Summit outcome on development*

The World Summit Outcome Document offers many important conclusions on development. In the Document, our leaders reiterated their determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals. This will require urgent action at different levels. We should therefore aim for a General Assembly resolution which calls on the actors of the UN system and all relevant stakeholders to fully live up to their responsibilities, within their respective mandates, to speedily follow up on the Outcome Document's conclusions. This will give a further political push for development. The resolution could focus particularly on the role of the United Nations in such follow-up. Questions to be considered could include:

- The way in which ECOSOC should look at follow-up to the Summit Outcome on Development, drawing on existing processes;
- The approach which should be taken by the General Assembly when receiving and reviewing ECOSOC's findings in this regard;
- The role of report(s) from the Secretary-General in informing this work;
- The role of the Agencies, Funds and Programmes in follow-up;
- The best way in which to consolidate links with relevant institutions inside and outside the UN system.

### *ECOSOC reform*

In line with paragraphs 155 and 156 of the World Summit Outcome Document, we should aim for a General Assembly resolution inviting ECOSOC to adapt its work in order to perform the functions defined therein. Some questions to be addressed might include:

- How should the Global Policy Dialogue and biennial High Level Development Co-operation Forum (DCF) be organized?
- How do those two functions fit with the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR)?
- How should ECOSOC fulfil the function of supporting efforts aimed at addressing humanitarian emergencies, in order to promote an improved UN response?
- How should the overall co-ordination role of ECOSOC be improved?
- What do these adaptations imply for the current organization of segments of the substantive session of ECOSOC?
- To what extent do we need to take into account the calendar of other meetings of the UN?

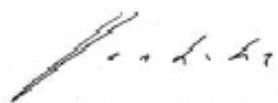
We propose to begin our consultations on **Tuesday 22 November at 10:00am in Committee Room 2**. At this first meeting, we would invite Member States to give their views on the questions outlined above. We have already received some written contributions and would be happy to receive further inputs. We would subsequently intend to draft issues papers drawing on the points raised in submissions and during the discussions.

For our second meeting, we are considering inviting representatives of agencies and institutions from both inside and outside the UN system involved in follow-up processes to give us a background briefing informing us of their work in this regard and to take questions.

Thereafter, we would propose to begin by meeting approximately once per week, dealing in alternate weeks with the issues of Follow-up to the Summit outcome on Development and ECOSOC reform.

We intend to work with a sense of urgency, and in a truly open, inclusive and transparent manner. We hope you will be able to take part personally in the informal consultations on these important aspects of the Outcome Document.

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



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Permanent Representative of Belgium



Ambassador Cheick Sidi Diarra  
Permanent Representative of Mali