



7 May 2007

Excellency,

I am writing with regards to the third informal thematic debate of the General Assembly, entitled '**Civilizations and the Challenge for Peace; opportunities and obstacles**', on 10 and 11 May 2007 in the Trusteeship Council.

Please find attached the final programme and a list of ECOSOC accredited non-governmental organizations that have been invited to participate. In view of feedback from Member states, this informal thematic debate will adopt a more interactive format based around four Panel debates. I would therefore encourage all Permanent Representatives and Observers to actively participate in the panel discussions in order to enrich and focus the debates.

On Thursday 10 May from 6:15-7:40 p.m., esteemed pianist and composer Mr. Abdel Rahman El Bacha will perform a recital in the General Assembly Hall. This will be followed by a reception in the Delegates Lounge. May I also draw your attention to a roundtable discussion on the role of the arts in bridging cultural differences, which will take place at lunchtime on 11 May.

I look forward to your active personal participation in the panel discussions. I believe the informal thematic debate is an important opportunity for this organization to contribute to a better understanding of the challenges we currently face in the world.

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

  
Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

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