Excellency,

Further to my letter of 9 November 2007, I would like to update you on the preparations for the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, scheduled to take place in New York on 11 and 12 December 2007.

In accordance with paragraph 6 of GA resolution 61/272 two children have been selected to address the plenary at the closing meeting. Instead I would like to propose that one of them speaks at the opening meeting. In doing so the General Assembly would strengthen its message about the important role of this event.

I have also the honour to inform you that the H.E. Maiga Sina Damba, Minister for the Promotion of Women, Children and Family Affairs of Mali and H.E. Dr. Esperanza Cabral, Minister of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines, kindly agreed to co-chair the round table entitled "Promoting healthy lives and combating HIV/AIDS". The second round table entitled "Providing universal quality education as key to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and as the first line of protection against abuse, exploitation and violence against children", will be co-chaired by H.E. Cecilia Landerreche Gomez Morin, Minister, Head of the National System for Integral Family Development of Mexico and H.E. Göran Hägglund, Minister for Health and Social Affairs of Sweden.

In order to facilitate an interactive discussion among Member States, as well as representatives of the UN system, children and non-governmental organizations, during the round tables there will be no list of speakers. Delegations are also kindly requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes.

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
There are currently more than 130 delegations inscribed on the list of speakers for the plenary meetings. In order to timely accommodate all the speakers additional evening plenary meetings from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. are being scheduled on both days. I would be grateful if delegates can kindly limit their statements to five (5) minutes so that the list of speakers can be exhausted by the end of 12 December 2007.

I look forward to your personal active participation in this commemorative high-level meeting. For your convenience a tentative program of the meeting is attached.

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

Srgjan Kerim