



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

16 October 2008

Excellency

As the global financial crisis deepens, it is even more evident that we are facing global challenges that can produce serious setbacks in the efforts to reduce poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other international agreements.

In this context and in anticipation of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus in Doha, I would like to invite you to an Interactive Panel on the Global Financial Crisis to be held on Thursday, 30 October 2008 beginning at 9 a.m. The purpose of the panel is to give Member States the opportunity to address this issue and interact with a well-recognized number of economists and sociologists in order to place the current crisis into a macroeconomic and social context. It represents an important step in an ongoing effort to develop proposals regarding the economic and development agenda of the United Nations and the role that the United Nations should play in the search for new policy initiatives.

The panelists that I have invited to lead this discussion are: Prof. Joseph Stiglitz (USA); Dr. François Houtart (Belgium); Prof. Prabhat Patnaik (India) and Dr. Pedro Paez (Ecuador) The concept and programme of the Panel is attached herewith for your information.

Your opinions, points of view and comments will greatly contribute to clarify not only where we are but in which direction the United Nations should move.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration

Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann

All Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers to the  
United Nations