



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

22 May 2017

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 19 May 2017 from the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (AHWG), H.E. Mr. Vladimir Drobnyak, Permanent Representative of Croatia and H.E. Ms. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates, convening a meeting at which the attached draft resolution on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly will be presented. This meeting will take place at 10:00 am on Friday, 26 May 2017 in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

I take this opportunity to encourage the active support, participation and contribution of Member States to this important process.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson'.

Peter Thomson

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



THE PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION OF  
THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

19 May 2017

Excellency,

In our capacity as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (AHWG), we wish to thank all delegations for their active participation in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group held in the seventy-first session of the General Assembly.

In the next stage of our work, we will engage in informal consultations on the draft resolution on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, which is to be adopted as part of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group by the end of the seventy-first session. In this regard, and after consulting with the President of the General Assembly, we have the pleasure to enclose herewith the draft resolution based on discussions we had in the previous meetings.

The Co-Chairs have listened carefully to the positions and views of Member States and groups expressed during our thematic meetings, as well as the new initiatives proposed. The attached draft represents our efforts to best reflect those positions, and we trust will serve as a good basis for our deliberations on the text in the weeks to come.

As announced during our last meeting, we will present the zero draft on **26 May, at 10am in the Trusteeship Council**, with the aim to provide rationale for changes and new elements in the text. During the briefing, general views of member states on the zero draft are welcome, but we intend not to engage in any textual amendments of the text at that point.

The first reading of the draft will take place on **1 June at 10am in the ECOSOC Chamber**.

We are looking forward to your active participation in discussions on the proposed draft resolution.

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

Vladimir Drobnjak  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Croatia

Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of the United Arab Emirates

To: All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations, New York

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/305](#) of 13 September 2016 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,<sup>1</sup>

*Acknowledging* that resolution [70/305](#) constitutes an important landmark for the strengthening of the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly as established by the Charter of the United Nations, in particular regarding the strengthening of the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly,

*Underlining* the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly,

*Reiterating* that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations,

*Emphasizing* the need to align the agenda of the General Assembly and the wider United Nations system in full support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recognizing* the role of the General Assembly in addressing issues of peace and security, in accordance with the Charter, and acknowledging its role and authority, established in Article 10 of the Charter, to make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both, on questions or matters within the scope of the Charter, except as provided in Article 12 thereof,

*Reaffirming* the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

*Mindful* that we have yet to achieve full gender and geographical balance within the United Nations and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men from all regional groups in their access to senior decision-making positions, bearing in mind the need to secure the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity,

*Welcoming* the successful conclusion of the process of selection and appointment of the ninth Secretary-General which was characterized by an unprecedented degree of transparency, accountability, and inclusivity, in accordance with resolutions [69/321](#) and [70/305](#),

*Reaffirming* the role and authority of the General Assembly in global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the Charter,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the President of the General Assembly to reinvigorate the revitalization of the work of the Assembly during its seventy-first session,

*Taking note* of the observations and proposals on improving the working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly made by the Chairs of the Main Committees at the Ad Hoc Working Group on the

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<sup>1</sup> Resolutions [46/77](#), [47/233](#), [48/264](#), [51/241](#), [52/163](#), [55/14](#), [55/285](#), [56/509](#), [57/300](#), [57/301](#), [58/126](#), [58/316](#), [59/313](#), [60/286](#), [61/292](#), [62/276](#), [63/309](#), [64/301](#), [65/315](#), [66/294](#), [67/297](#), [68/307](#) and [69/321](#).

Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly thematic meeting on working methods held on 28 March 2017,<sup>2</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly and the updated inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed thereto;<sup>3</sup>

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, which exists in all six official languages, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating regularly and equally that web page and its substantive content in a cost-effective manner;

3. *Decides* to establish, at its seventy-second session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-second session;

4. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the seventieth session and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the seventy-second session of the Assembly;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>4</sup> and *requests* the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-second session;

#### **Role and authority of the General Assembly**

6. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

7. *Recognizes* that implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, enhances the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and *underlines* the important role and responsibility of Member States in their full implementation;

8. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in

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<sup>4</sup> A/71/780.

accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, as demonstrated through the joint activity of the Presidents of the Security Council and the General Assembly in the process of the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General during the seventieth and seventy-first sessions, and in this regard *stresses* the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat, in particular the Secretary-General;

9. *Recalls* the practice of holding periodic informal briefings by the eighth Secretary-General on his priorities, travels and most recent activities, including his participation in international meetings and events organized outside the United Nations, and *encourages* the continuation of this practice;

10. *Welcomes* the holding of interactive and comprehensive dialogues between the permanent missions and the Secretariat in the framework of the Ad Hoc Working Group as mandated by resolution 70/305, aimed at improving the work of the Secretariat in its interaction with the permanent missions, *commends* the initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat in response to those and *requests* the co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group to circulate to Member States and the Secretariat a written summary of said interactive dialogues at the seventy-second session;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and *encourages* the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity with its relevant rules of procedure;

12. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and *calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to organize such debates in close consultations with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the frequency and preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion during the debates so as to enable all interested delegations to state their positions and to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates, and in this context *welcomes* the initiative of the President of the Assembly at its seventy-first session to select “The Sustainable Development Goals: A Universal Push to Transform our World” as the theme of the general debate;

13. *Commends* improvements in the quality of the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, including as presented in the note by the President of the Council,<sup>5</sup> and welcomes the willingness of the Council to continue to consider other suggestions concerning improvements to the annual report;

14. *Invites* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of the contribution made by

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<sup>5</sup> S/2015/944.

the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, under relevant agenda items, to bring to the attention of the Member States constraints that have prevented the Secretary-General from implementing those provisions of General Assembly resolutions that are addressed to the Secretariat;

### **Working Methods**

16. *Reaffirms* existing relevant mandates related to the improvement of the working methods of the Main Committees, including section C of the annex to resolution [58/316](#) of 1 July 2004, paragraphs 7 to 13 of resolution [59/313](#) of 12 September 2005, cluster III of the annex to resolution [60/286](#) of 8 September 2006 and resolution [69/321](#), in particular paragraphs 16 and 17 thereof;

17. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventy-second session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate;

18. *Recalls* its resolution [58/316](#) Annex, section C paragraph 3 and *requests* chairs of the Main Committees to organize hand-over meetings between the outgoing and incoming bureaux to exchange views on outcomes and the upcoming agenda, and further *invites* Main Committee chairs to present a report to their successors on best practices and lessons learnt;

19. *Decides* that the President-elect of the General Assembly shall meet with the General Committee-elect before the beginning of the regular session of the General Assembly, in order to consider ways to minimize overlap and achieve complementarity of the work of the Main Committees, and in the same vein *calls* for the six chairs of the Main Committees to meet periodically during the General Assembly session;

20. *Welcomes* efforts to afford elected members of the Security Council appropriate opportunities to prepare for their tenure, and *welcomes* the note by the President of the Security Council in which the elected Security Council members are invited to observe some of its meetings and activities as from 1 October immediately preceding their term of membership;

21. *Emphasizes* that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the seventy-second session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group;

22. *Recalls* its resolution [48/264](#) of 29 July 1994, by which it adopted the Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly;

23. *Also recalls* the need to enhance synergies and coherence and reduce overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, and the high-level political

forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls for the continuation of such efforts during the seventy-second session of the Assembly;

24. PLACEHOLDER – 2030 Alignment

25. *Recalls* rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages the Chairs of the Main Committees and the Secretary-General to ensure observance of these rules, within their respective mandates;

26. *Recalls* rule 72 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly and *calls for* strict adherence by each speaker to the time limits in the General Assembly, where applicable, and in particular during the general debate, High-level Meetings of the General Assembly as well as High-level Thematic Debates convened by the President of the General Assembly;

27. *Decides* that agenda items will automatically expire and be deleted from the General Assembly agenda after three years upon inscription, unless the action in the form of general debate and/or resolution is taken within the aforesaid time;

28. *Decides* that during the first week of the general debate, in order to enhance its significance, only side-events organized by five or more Member States shall be allowed in the United Nations Headquarters;

29. *Requests* the Secretariat to develop a webpage dedicated to a complete overview of side events organized by Member States at the United Nations Headquarters throughout the year;

30. *Decides* that the general debate and the thematic meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group shall be webcast;

31. *Recalls* its resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963, 2837 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 45/45 of 28 November 1990, 58/126 of 19 December 2003 and 58/316 of 1 July 2004, and *calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to make full use of the General Committee throughout the session with a view to review the program of work of the General Assembly and its Main Committees and to assess progress;

32. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of the meetings of the Assembly, including high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing their interactivity, effectiveness, and distribution throughout the session, and to consider ways to decrease the number of high-level events held during the general debate;

33. *Decides* that starting from the seventy-third session the General Assembly shall meet every year in regular session commencing on the Tuesday of the second week in September, counting from the first week that contains at least one working day, with a view to allocating more time for the incoming President of the General Assembly in his or her preparations for the General Debate;

34. *Decides* in this context to amend Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: “The General Assembly shall meet every year in regular session commencing on the Tuesday of the second week in

September, counting from the first week that contains at least one working day”

35. *Decides* further to replace Annex IX of the Rules of Procedure with the following text: “Decides that the general debate in the General Assembly shall open on the second Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and shall be held without interruption over a period of nine working days”;

36. *Encourages* the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly;

37. *Decides* that, with sufficient time before the opening of each regular or special session of the General Assembly, the Secretariat, in particular its protocol and security services, shall hold discussions with all Member States on all aspects related to the organization of the high-level segment of the general debate and any other activities that may have special organizational requirements;

38. *Also decides* that, with due consideration given to accessibility issues, in all plenary meetings of the General Assembly, including plenary meetings of high-level events, the seating arrangement of Member States shall follow English alphabetical order, beginning with the name of the country selected by lot each year and avoiding distinctions between Member States as to the rank of the head of delegation;

39. *Recalls* the interim arrangement approved by the General Assembly in decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013, recommending a pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees until the seventy-third session of the Assembly, reiterates its request that the Ad Hoc Working Group prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism, in consultation with regional groups, and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at its seventy-second session, and in this regard reiterates its invitation to Member States to present proposals and to devote early attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement, which would come into effect at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly, with the annex to resolution [68/307](#) of 10 September 2014 containing the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees to be considered in this context;

40. *Encourages* Member States to present their candidatures to the bureaux of the Main Committees in a timely manner, in order to ensure their timely election and preparation for the upcoming session;

41. *Encourages* Member States to seek gender balance in the distribution of Chairs of the Main Committees;

42. *Decides* that during the seventy-second session of the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Working Group shall start to consider a code of ethics to guide Member States’ conduct of election campaigns with a view to improving the standards of transparency, accountability and equity;

43. *Decides* that the names of all candidates, being Member States or individuals, shall be printed on the ballot papers, and that additional space shall be provided on the ballot paper for inscribing other names, where applicable;



44. *Decides* that on the day of election the campaign materials distributed in the General Assembly Hall shall be limited to basic written information regarding the respective candidates, with a view to preserving the decorum of the Assembly;

45. *Also encourages* Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs, reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to further improve, harmonize and, where appropriate, unify such e-services;

46. *Takes note* with appreciation of the innovative proposals on the possible changes to the format, production and editing of the Journal of the United Nations, including through streamlining its content, presented by the Under-Secretary General for General Assembly and Conference Management at the second thematic meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly;

#### **Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads**

47. *Commends* the Presidents of the General Assembly at its seventieth and seventy-first sessions for successfully conducting the process of selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, in line with resolutions 69/321 and 70/305;

48. *Reiterates* that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and *emphasizes* in particular that the process of selection of the Secretary-General is guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, building on the best practices and the participation of all Member States;

49. *Reaffirms its commitment* to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its thorough consideration of the issues under the third thematic cluster of the Working Group, on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, including the examination of innovative ways to improve the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General and other executive heads in all its aspects, and recalls all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292 of 2 August 2007, 62/276 of 15 September 2008, 63/309 of 14 September 2009, 64/301 of 13 September 2010, 65/315 of 12 September 2011, 66/294 of 17 September 2012, 67/297 of 29 August 2013, 68/307, 69/321 and 70/305 reaffirming the applicable procedures set out in the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in particular rule 141, and acknowledging existing relevant practices of the Assembly;

50. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to monitor and review the implementation by the Assembly of these resolutions;

51. *Recalls* in particular its resolutions 11(I), 69/321 and 70/305 and *strongly welcomes* their implementation in the process of selection and appointment of the ninth Secretary-General, *recognizes* further the need to solidify this process based on the lessons learned and in strict compliance with Article 97 of the Charter, and *decides* to adopt a single consolidated

resolution on the process no later than at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly;

52. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the efforts invested so far towards achieving equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization, while securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and *requests* further effective measures to be undertaken in this regard;

53. *Recalls* its resolution [52/12 B](#) of 19 December 1997, in particular paragraph 2, which notes that the Secretary-General will appoint the Deputy Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, and stresses that the process of appointments to senior posts by the Secretary-General within the Organization should be inclusive and transparent, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and as set out in the Charter;

54. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender balance and as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard recalls its resolutions [46/232](#) of 2 March 1992 and [51/241](#), adopted without a vote, which contain the principles that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity are the paramount considerations in the recruitment and performance of international civil servants and that, as a general rule, there should be no monopoly on senior posts in the United Nations system by nationals of any State or group of States;

55. *Requests* the Office of Human Resources Management to provide a briefing to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads of the United Nations system and the Senior Management Group of the Organization;

#### **Strengthening the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly**

56. *Commends* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session for strengthening the transparency and inclusivity of his Office, including the increased and creative use of online facilities, and for providing a financial disclosure upon assumption of office, releasing detailed information on the finances and contributions to the Office, details on official travel, substantive activities, staffing and activities of his Office, as mandated by resolution [70/305](#), and *looks forward* to an end-of-term report on these matters and *requests* future Presidents of the Assembly to follow these good practices;

57. *Welcomes* the innovative practice of taking an oath of office and observing a code of ethics by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, as contained in Annexes X and XI of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, thus contributing to increased transparency and accountability of the Office;

58. *Notes with appreciation* the views expressed by the Office of the President of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the strengthening of the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly and its relationship with the Secretariat and the measures already undertaken in this regard, while continuing to explore additional measures where feasible, and *notes* the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to the Office of the President;

59. *Encourages* the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel;

60. *Commends* the initiative of convening a retreat on the strengthening of the General Assembly, which brings together the incoming and outgoing presidencies of each session of the Assembly;<sup>6</sup>

61. *Encourages* exchanges between the President-elect of the General Assembly and the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly so that Presidents-elect may benefit from the experiences of former Presidents in terms of best practices and lessons learned;

62. *Commends* the steps undertaken by the Office of the President of the General Assembly, assisted by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, to develop a standardized format for the written handover summary of best practices and lessons learned, *welcomes* with appreciation the handover report from the President of the seventieth session to his successor which was transmitted to all Member States and *requests* future Presidents of the General Assembly to continue this practice;

63. *Welcomes* the progress made in archiving and record-keeping by the Office of the President of the General Assembly with the assistance of the Archiving and Record Management Division in the Department of Management, and further *stresses* the need to continue considering methods to effectively preserve the institutional memory of the Office;

64. *Decides* to conduct the elections for the position of the President of the General Assembly about six months before the beginning of the regular session of the General Assembly, beginning at the seventy-third session;

65. *Decides*, in full respect of the established principle of geographical rotation and its resolution 33/138, to conduct informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of the President of the General Assembly, thus contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process, and *calls upon* candidates to present to the General Assembly their vision statement;

66. *Stresses* the need to promote and ensure gender balance throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly, and encourages Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly on the sources of funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat;

68. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility to, in an efficient and capable manner, coordinate the transition between Presidents, manage interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and preserve institutional memory, *welcomes* the provision by Member States of staff

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<sup>6</sup> See [A/70/666](#).

from their respective permanent missions to be seconded to the Office of the President, and *encourages* the continuation of this existing good practice;

69. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General, and invitation to the heads of specialized agencies, funds and programmes, upon request by the President of the General Assembly, to consider seconding staff to work in the Office of the President of the General Assembly on a more systematic basis;

70. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the General Assembly in previous resolutions, and expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, as well as to continue discussions within the Ad Hoc Working Group on further steps to strengthen the Office;

71. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, proposals to review the budget allocation of the Office of the President of the General Assembly in accordance with existing procedures, *stresses* the need for flexibility in the level of staff to be allocated to the office from within existing resources, and taking into account deliberations of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the issue, and in this connection *looks forward* to considering such proposals during the main part of its seventy-second session;

72. *Welcomes* the decision by the Secretary-General to make non-staff programme budget resources available to Presidents of the General Assembly from the date of their election;

73. *Stresses* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard *notes* with appreciation the contributions that have been made to the Fund, and *encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the Fund and to allow for unspent contributions from previous sessions to be made available for succeeding terms;

74. *Welcomes* the establishment of the practice of vetting all contributions through the Ethics Office;

75. *Reiterates* its call for non-in-kind contributions to be channelled through the Trust Fund, and *welcomes* steps undertaken in this regard by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session;

76. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report on the implementation of all mandates accorded to him or her by the present and previous relevant resolutions to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventy-second session of the Assembly.