

13 October 2017

Excellency,

On Monday, 16 October 2017, the General Assembly will hold an election of fifteen members of the Human Rights Council, as announced in the Note by the President of the General Assembly on the schedule of plenary meetings (A/INF/72/3). As this is the first election to take place in the plenary since the adoption of resolution 71/323 of 8 September 2017 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, I would like to recall that, by the said resolution, the Assembly decided that "on the day of election in the General Assembly or in the Main Committees the campaign materials distributed in the General Assembly Hall or in the Committee meeting room shall be limited to a single page of information regarding the candidates, with a view to preserving the decorum of the Assembly".

Recognizing the importance of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, to the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and with a view to ensuring that all Member States are treated equally during the election process, I should like to underline the important role and responsibility of Member States to abide by the Assembly's decision. I am convinced that I can count on your full cooperation in this regard.

Additionally, I would like to draw your attention to the new balloting procedure in place for elections in the General Assembly and invite you to participate in a briefing by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) to take place at 10 a.m. in the General Assembly Hall, immediately preceding the election, as announced in the DGACM note verbale dated 5 October 2017.

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

Miroslav Laičák

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