



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

31 May 2006

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to resolution 60/227 of 23 December 2005 by which the General Assembly decided to hold a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development on 14 and 15 September 2006. In this letter, I would like to draw your attention to a number of events that will be arranged during the 60<sup>th</sup> session, in preparation for the High-level Dialogue.

I have already informed you earlier about the one-day informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, that are scheduled to be held on 12 July 2006. On this matter, I refer to my letters of 12 April and 22 May.

GA resolution 60/227 further invited the President of the General Assembly, within existing resources, in consultation with Member States, and with the assistance of the Secretariat, to organize prior to the High-level Dialogue up to two panel discussions on its overall theme.

In this connection, I wish to inform you that the first panel discussion on International Migration and Development is scheduled to take place on 8 June 2006, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The second panel discussion is scheduled to take place on 4 July 2006, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

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

The purpose of the panel discussions is to debate, at the substantive level, the ways and means of maximizing the benefits of migration for development and minimizing its negative impacts, and, particularly, the role that the United Nations system can play in assisting Member States to make the most of the opportunities that migration brings and addressing the challenges it poses.

The panel discussions will provide an excellent opportunity for fruitful interaction between Member States and representatives of the United Nations system and will be an important contribution to the successful organization and outcome of the High-level Dialogue in September. I encourage you to personally participate in one or both of them.

The panelists will include heads of relevant United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, as well as the International Organization for Migration. I am pleased to announce that the panelists for the first panel discussion on 8 June will be:

Ms Thoraya Obaid, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund  
Mr José Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

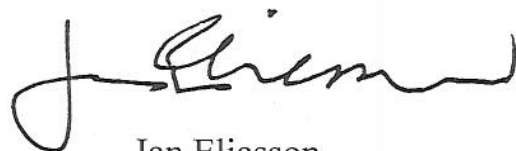
Mr José Luis Machinea, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Mr Peter Sutherland, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development

Mr Danny Leipziger, Vice President, World Bank

I am also pleased to inform you that the Secretary-General will present his report on International Migration and Development in a General Assembly plenary meeting on 6 June at 4 p.m. Further information will follow in a Journal announcement.

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



Jan Eliasson