Excellency,

As you may recall, last February 11-13th, the General Assembly held a High-Level Thematic Debate on climate change entitled “Addressing Climate Change: The United Nations and the World at Work.” The panel discussions and statements made by Member States highlighted the urgency to tackle climate change. At the debate many Member States indicated a strong interest in a follow-up meeting focusing on the specific needs and concerns of the most vulnerable countries.

It is imperative that we examine ways to address the challenges facing these countries and how to assist them in their efforts to cope with the threats of climate change. The impact of climate change is felt in all countries with no one nation being safe. However, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has highlighted some regions as being particularly at risk.

It is therefore my honour to invite you to participate at a General Assembly follow-up meeting focusing on ‘Climate Change and Most Vulnerable Countries – The Imperative to Act’, to be held on the morning of the 8th of July 2008.

The meeting will act as a discussion forum for Member States to exchange views on adaptation, including technology and financing and disaster reduction as related to the most vulnerable countries.

A detailed programme of the event as well as a background paper will follow in due time.

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

Srgjan Kerim

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