23 February 2011

Excellency,

As a follow-up to the appointment of HE Mr. Octavio Errázuriz, Permanent Representative of Chile, to serve as Facilitator and to lead consultations on the review of the implementation of resolution 61/16, I have the honor to transmit his letter on a list of topics to be discussed during informal consultations scheduled for 7 and 15 March 2011.

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

[Signature]
Joseph Deiss

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the
United Nations
New York
New York, 17 February 2011

To all Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations

Excellencies,

The President of the General Assembly has asked me to assume the role of facilitator to lead the consultations on the review the implementation of Resolution 61/16 of the General Assembly, on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council.

I have accepted this designation and committed the efforts of the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations to carry out the mandate entrusted in me.

In this regard, I would like to convene the first round of informal consultations of the General Assembly on Monday 7 March 2011, at 10am, in Conference Room 1; the second round will take place on Tuesday 15 March at 10am, in Conference Room 3.

Moreover, I have deemed it important to organize a public meeting with representatives of civil society, the private sector, and academia on this matter. I will inform your Excellencies in due time on the details of this event.

Regarding the informal consultations of 7 and 15 March, to be held within the framework of the General Assembly, I consider it useful to divide them into areas of work, taking into account the main issues contained in Res. 61/16. Thus I request that delegations, without prejudice to any statements they may wish to make, direct their comments and suggestions to topics, as follows:

Informal Consultations of 7 March

I. General considerations on the review process of the implementation of Resolution 61/16

1. Is there space to improve the implementation of Res. 61/16?
II. Development Cooperation Forum (DCF)

1. What aspects of the DCF can be improved?
2. Would it be convenient to convene the Forum annually, instead of biannually?
3. What topics can be included in the agenda?
4. Is the level of participation adequate?
5. What is the best result of the Forum?
6. Is a follow-up mechanism to the Forum necessary? What type?

III. Annual Ministerial Review

1. How can the mechanism of national voluntary presentations be improved?
2. Is the level of representation adequate?
3. Is it possible to create a "peer review" system?

Informal Consultations of 15 March

IV. Relationship between the ECOSOC and other organs

1. With the General Assembly
2. With subsidiary organs
3. With the Peacebuilding Commission

V. The Specialized High-Level Meeting with the Bretton Woods Institutions, the World Trade Organization, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

1. Level of representation
2. Meeting format
3. Follow-up of commitments

VI. Methods of Work of the ECOSOC

1. Work of the Bureau
2. The Secretariat

VII. Other matters

1. General aspects of the Substantive Session
2. Coordination of the work of the ECOSOC with the broader United Nations agenda: support of international conferences
3. Relation of the ECOSOC with regard to public opinion, national parliaments, civil society, the private sector, and academia
4. Improve the annual event on philanthropy; follow-up of commitments.

I hope that the division of topics suggested for the two rounds of consultations will allow for a more focused and interactive discussion.

I take this opportunity to express to your Excellencies the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

Octavio Eríz
Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations