



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

17 November 2015

Excellency,

I am writing in reference to my letter dated 12 November regarding the informal consultation on the modalities and organizational arrangements for the High-Level meeting on HIV/AIDS and sharing the zero draft modalities resolution.

We would be grateful if your delegation could share inputs and comments on the attached zero draft with Elaine Kiener at the Mission of Switzerland (eliane.kiener@eda.admin.ch) and Silvester Mwanza at the Mission of Zambia (smwanza2@gmail.com), with copy to Marine Davtyan (davtyanm@unaids.org) and Jaleel Partow (partowj@unaids.org) at UNAIDS Secretariat, by Wednesday 18 November 2015, noon.

We aim at distributing to all Member States the revised version of the modalities resolution on Thursday 19 November 2015.

We also intend to convene our next informal consultation on Tuesday 24 November in the ECOSOC Chamber between 10:00-1:00p.m.

We look forward to your continuous support in this important process.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', written in a cursive style.

Mogens Lykketoft

To all Permanent Representatives
And Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

Organization of the 2016 High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS

The General Assembly,

Pp1 *Reaffirming its commitment* to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS¹ and the Political Declarations on HIV/AIDS,² (based on pp1 and pp2, 65/180)

Pp2 Recalling the HIV/AIDS-related goals and commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration³, in the 2005 World Summit Outcome⁴, and in the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of its sixty-fifth session on Millennium Development Goals⁵, (pp3, 65/180)

Pp3 Recalling also its decision⁶ to convene a high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS in 2016, and to determine the modalities and organizational arrangements for such a meeting by December 2015; (new, based on para b, decision 68/555)

Pp4 Welcoming the achievement of the HIV/AIDS-related targets of the Millennium Development Goal 6⁷, as well as the achievement of some of the time-bound goals set out in the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS⁸, while noting with concern that progress has been uneven among and within countries, that gains are fragile and reversible without a sustained commitment and action, and that these time-bound goals will expire by the end of 2015, (new)

Pp5 Welcoming also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁹, and its commitment to ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030, as contained in the target 3.3, and emphasizing its interlinkages with other goals and targets of the Agenda, (new)

1. *Decides* to convene a high-level meeting on 8-10 June 2016, which will undertake a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declarations on HIV/AIDS, including successes, best practices, lessons learned, obstacles and gaps, challenges and opportunities, and recommendations to guide and monitor the HIV/AIDS response beyond 2015, including concrete strategies for action to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030, as well as promote continued commitment and engagement of

1 Resolution S-26/2, annex.

2 Resolutions 60/262, annex and 65/277, annex.

3 Resolution 55/2.

4 Resolution 60/1.

5 Resolution 65/1.

6 Decision 68/555.

7 Target 6A: to have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.

8 Resolution 65/277, annex

9 Resolution 70/1.

leaders to accelerate a comprehensive universal and integrated response to HIV/AIDS; (based on op 1, 65/180)

2. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting should be as follows: (op 2, 65/180)

- (a) The high-level meeting will comprise plenary meetings, and up to five thematic panel discussions;
- (b) The opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, a person openly living with HIV and an eminent person actively engaged in the response to HIV/AIDS;
- (c) The Chairs of the panel discussions will present summaries of the discussions to the closing plenary meeting;

3. *Invites* Member and Observer States and observers to be represented at the highest level at the high-level meeting; (op 3 and op 5, 65/180)

4. *Encourages* Member States to include in their national delegations to the high-level meeting parliamentarians, mayors of cities significantly affected by HIV/AIDS, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and organizations and networks representing people living with HIV, women, adolescents and young persons, orphans, community organizations, faith-based organizations and the private sector; (based on op 4, 65/180)

5. *Invites* the United Nations system, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General on HIV/AIDS and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Stop Tuberculosis, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and urges them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the meeting; (op 6, 65/180)

6. *Encourages* other stakeholders, including the International Drug Purchase Facility (UNITAID), and the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, to contribute, as appropriate, to the high-level meeting; (op 7, 65/180)

7. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to contribute to the high-level meeting; (op 8, 65/180)

8. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to organize, no later than in April 2016, and preside over an informal interactive civil society hearing with the active participation of people living with HIV and broader civil society, and attended by representatives of Member and Observer States and observers, non-governmental

organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations and the private sector, as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, and further requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing, issued as a document of the Assembly prior to the high-level meeting; (based on op 9 and op10, 65/180)

9. *Encourages* Member States to actively participate in the hearing at the ambassadorial level to facilitate interaction between Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector; (op 11, 65/180)

10. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and non-governmental members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint Programme to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate; (op 12, 65/180)

11. *Decides* that representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, one from each grouping, selected during the informal interactive hearing, may also be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the high-level meeting, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly; (op 13, 65/18)

12. Requests the President of the General Assembly to draw up, no later than 31 March 2016, a list of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the plenary meetings and panel discussions of the high-level meeting, taking into account the principle of transparency and the principle of equitable geographical representation, and submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis.¹⁰ (based on op2, Annex IV, 69/244, with revisions to adjust to the structure of the HLM, eg panel discussions instead of interactive dialogues)

13. *Decides* that the arrangements outlined in paragraph 12 above shall not be considered a precedent for other similar events (op 15, 65/180);

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with support from the Joint Programme and in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting, including the identification of a person openly living with HIV and an eminent person actively engaged in the response to HIV/AIDS to speak at the opening plenary meeting, the identification of themes and finalization of the panel discussions, and the arrangements for the informal interactive hearing with civil society; (op 16, 65/180)

¹⁰ The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly, noting the general basis of any objections.

15. *Requests* the Joint Programme to continue facilitating, to the extent possible, inclusive consultations at the country and regional levels with participation of relevant stakeholders, including Governments, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector, to review progress made towards achievement of time-bound goals set out in the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS to be met by 2015, as well as opportunities to address gaps, obstacles and challenges; (based on op 17, 65/180)

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and analytical report, at least six weeks prior to its consideration by the General Assembly, on progress achieved and challenges remaining in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment and the Political Declarations, as well as recommendations for sustainable ways to overcome these challenges, taking into consideration the outcomes and findings of the aforementioned progress review consultations, as available; (based on op 18 65/180)

17. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to hold timely, open, transparent and inclusive consultations with all Member States, giving due consideration to the report of the Secretary-General and other inputs to the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, with a view to adopting a concise and action-oriented declaration, as an outcome of the high-level meeting to be agreed by Member States, that reaffirms and builds on the Declaration of Commitment and the Political Declarations to guide and monitor the HIV/AIDS response beyond 2015, towards achieving the commitment of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030,. (based on op 19, 65/180)