10 March 2016

Excellency,

Please find attached letter dated 10 March 2016 from Her Excellency Dina Kawar, Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and His Excellency David Donoghue, Permanent Representative of Ireland, in their capacity as co-facilitators of the high-level meeting of the plenary of the General Assembly to address the large movements of refugees and migrants.

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

Mogens Lykketoft

To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
New York, 10th March 2016

Excellency,

Thank you for your interest in the first informal meeting on organisational modalities for the high-level meeting to address large movements of refugees and migrants, which will take place on 19th September 2016. Based on the useful exchanges with Member States during our meeting on 2nd March, we are pleased to share with you the attached non-paper on elements for a decision on its modalities.

We have pleasure in informing you that a second informal meeting will be held on Friday, 18th March 2016 at 3 p.m. in the ECOSOC Chamber at which we invite you to share your reaction to the attached elements. Suggestions for themes for the envisaged round tables will also be invited. Following that meeting we would intend to prepare a draft decision of the General Assembly on the organisational modalities for the 19th September event for your consideration.

We thank you for your support and look forward to your active participation on 18th March 2016.

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

HE Dina Kawar
Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations

HE David Donoghue
Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations

Enclosures: 1
Core Elements for a decision on modalities for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to address large movements of refugees and migrants (19th September 2016)

The co-facilitators have listened carefully to the comments made by Member States during the informal consultation on 2nd March regarding the organizational arrangements and a possible outcome for “the high-level meeting of the Plenary of the General Assembly to address large movements of refugees and migrants” which will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19th September 2016.

Building on those comments, the co-facilitators propose for consideration a number of core elements which might be reflected in a decision of the General Assembly on this matter:

- In view of the global importance of the issues to be addressed by the meeting, Member States would be invited to participate at the level of Head of State or Government.

- Other invitees would include the heads of UN funds and programmes, the heads of UN specialised agencies, the heads of the Bretton Woods institutions, the heads of regional commissions of the UN and of the International Organisation for Migration.

- The meeting would allow for the participation of stakeholders, including but not limited to, representatives of parliaments, civil society organisations, the private sector and academia.

- The meeting would take the form of a plenary session running throughout the day, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, with at least four roundtables running in parallel to the plenary session.

- The plenary could begin at 9.00 a.m. with an inaugural session lasting for one hour. This session would have several speakers including the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly and the President of UNGA70. In a subsequent session lasting up to nine hours, Member States would be able to make short statements in the plenary (3 to 4 minutes given the time constraints). They would also be free to make statements in one of the roundtables. The plenary could conclude with a short closing session.

- The roundtables would be structured in a balanced way which would allow consideration of a) common issues related to refugees and migrants and b) separate issues related specifically to each group. The themes envisaged for these dialogues could be specified in the decision.

- Representatives of UN agencies and other stakeholders would be invited to participate with Member States in these dialogues.

- Arrangements would be required to enable stakeholders to contribute both to the preparations for the meeting and to the meeting itself. The President of the General Assembly could be asked to consider hosting a day of informal preparatory consultations with these stakeholders some months in advance of the meeting.

- An outcome document for the meeting would be agreed by Member States, with assistance from the co-facilitators. It would be informed by the forthcoming report of the Secretary General on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants.