3 May 2016

Excellency,

Pursuant to my earlier letters on the same subject, the latest dated 1 April 2016, and as part of my intention to carry out my mandate in a transparent and open manner, I have the honour to transmit herewith a memo from my recent meeting with the President of the Security Council for the month of May 2016, H.E. Mr. Amr Abdellatif Aboulatta, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations.

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

Mogens Lykketoft

To All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
PGA Office Memo: Meeting between the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council for the month of May 2016, the Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on 26 April 2016.

The President of the General Assembly met on 26 April 2016 with the President of the Security Council for the month of May 2016, H.E. Mr. Amr Abdellatif Aboulatta, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations.

The Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt briefed the President of the General Assembly on the Security Council’s provisional Programme of Work for May that contains a number of periodic agenda items related to Security Council on-going business. The Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt highlighted 4 key elements from the provisional programme of work, namely a briefing on health care in armed conflict, a visit to the Horn of Africa, including Somalia and Kenya, and possibly including the League of Arab States, as well as two open debates. Of these, the first would focus on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts and would be chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, H.E. Mr. Sameh Hassan Shoukry. The second open debate would be focused on UN-AU peace and security cooperation and would build on the annual informal consultations of the Security Council and the AU’s Peace and Security Council. May also included the annual informal consultations with the EU’s Political and Security Committee.

The President of the General Assembly thanked Ambassador Aboulatta for his briefing and – referring to previous meetings with the monthly presidencies of the Security Council during which the question of the selection and appointment process of the next Secretary-General of the United Nations had also been discussed – recalled that the informal dialogues with candidates for the position of Secretary-General had taken place the previous month on 12 through 14 April. A total of 9 candidates had participated, establishing a new standard for transparency and inclusivity, making the dialogues an integral part of the process. The President of the General Assembly further recalled that he strongly encouraged any new candidates to come forward, underlining in this context that he expected to organise another round of informal dialogues with new candidates during the week of 31 May-2 June. In that context, both reconfirmed that any presentation of new candidates will be expeditiously circulated to Member States. Finally, both concurred that it was important to continue the process on an on-going basis, including by considering how best to bridge the process between the two bodies building on the expectations of Member States.