

6 October 2015

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft,  
President of the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly,  
at the press conference at the United Nations Headquarters in New  
York (as delivered)**

We think, like many of you, this is extremely shocking.

I am deeply shocked regarding the news today concerning the President of 68th session of the UN General Assembly. It means, like the Secretary-General said this morning, that this is an attack at the very heart of the integrity of the United Nations.

We only learned about it this morning through the news.

Neither I, nor my Office has been contacted by US authorities. But of course, we stand ready to engage with all concerned as necessary.

Coming from a country which is consistently Number One on the World Transparency Index and having served for 34 years in Danish politics without being rich, I'm certainly shocked about it.

I think the United Nations and its representatives should be held to the highest standards of transparency and ethics.

As you remember when I took office for this 70th session of the UN General Assembly in September, I committed to uphold these principles during my tenure and I am firmly committed to doing so.

Corruption has no place at the United Nations or anywhere else.