



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18 March, 2016

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 16 March 2016 regarding zero draft of the outcome document of the comprehensive high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, I have the pleasure to enclose herewith a letter to Member States from the co-facilitators of the inter-governmental consultations, H.E. Ms. Bénédicte Frankinet, Permanent Representative of Belgium and H.E. Mr. Jean-François Régis Zinsou, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Benin, transmitting the provisional programme for the meeting of the experts to take place in New York on 28-31 March 2016.

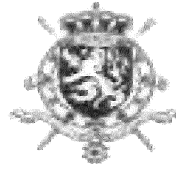
I would like to take this opportunity to echo the message of the co-facilitators and look forward for active participation of Member States in the meeting of the experts.

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

A handwritten signature in dark 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



New York, March 17, 2016

Excellency,

We have the honor to refer to the letter of 5 November 2015 from the President of the General Assembly informing you about our appointment as co-facilitators to conduct inter-governmental consultations of the General Assembly's midterm review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of Istanbul, to be held in Antalya, Turkey, on 27, 28 and 29 May 2016.

In line with General Assembly decision A/RES/69/231 adopted on 19 December 2014, we have been requested to co-chair the preparatory meeting of experts to be held in the Trusteeship Council Chamber between 28 and 31 March 2016.

In this regard, we are pleased to attach the provisional agenda of the meeting of experts.

We look forward to the active participation of your delegation in the meeting of experts.

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

H.E. Mrs. Bénédicte Frankinet
Co-Facilitator
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Jean-François Régis Zinsou
Co-Facilitator
Permanent Representative of Benin
to the United Nations

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

**Preparatory Meeting of Experts in preparation for the high-level
midterm review of the Istanbul Programme for Action**

**UN Headquarters, New York
Trusteeship Council Chamber**

28-31 March 2016

Provisional Programme

The preparatory meeting of experts in preparation for the high-level midterm review of the Istanbul Programme of Action will be convened from 28 to 31 March 2016 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/231. The meeting will undertake substantive preparations for the midterm review, including a review of progress in the preparatory process for the midterm review, a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action by the Least Developed Countries and their development partners. It will also identify effective international and domestic policies in the light of the outcome of the appraisal as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities and the means to address them, reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special needs of the Least Developed Countries and mobilize additional international support measures and action in favour of the Least Developed Countries.

In line with General Assembly resolution 70/216 the meeting will be chaired by the co-facilitators and will consider the draft outcome document of the midterm review. The meeting will be held in accordance with the attached programme, which will be updated as necessary during the week. In accordance with OP. 23 of General Assembly resolution 69/231, interpretation will be provided on an "as available" basis.

Monday, 28 March 2016

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

First meeting (opening)

1. Opening of the meeting by the co-facilitators
2. Substantive preparations for the Conference
 - Presentation of the Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the IPOA as well as the substantive preparations for the midterm review by the Secretary-General of the Conference
 - Presentation on the preparations for the midterm review by the host country
 - Presentation of the draft outcome document by the co-facilitators
3. General statements on the draft outcome document

3-6 p.m.

Second meeting

General statements (cont.)

Tuesday, 29 March 2016

9- 9.45 a.m.

Consultations with stakeholders

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

Third and fourth meetings

Consideration of the draft outcome document

Wednesday, 30 March 2016

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m.

Fifth and sixth meetings

Consideration of the draft outcome document

Thursday, 31 March 2016

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Seventh meeting

Consideration of the draft outcome document

3-6 p.m.

Eighth meeting

4. Other matters
5. Concluding remarks by the Secretary-General of the Conference
6. Closing of the meeting by the co-facilitators