Excellency,

Pursuant to my letter of 25 February regarding the informal dialogues to be held 12-14 April by the General Assembly with the candidates for the position of Secretary-General that have been formally presented so far in accordance with resolution 69/321, I am now pleased to share with you the schedule for these meetings. The schedule and relevant information will also be available on the dedicated page on my website (www.un.org/pga/70/sg/).

Further to the annex to the above mentioned letter, containing details on the format of the meetings I am also pleased to supplement and highlight some of the information regarding the organization of the meetings.

The informal dialogues will be held in accordance with established practice for informal meetings of the General Assembly (e.g. no pre-established list of speakers, Member States will pose questions from their seats on a first-come, first-served basis, GA seating protocol). With a view to ensuring the efficient conduct of the meeting, I encourage Member States to pose questions in groups, and in so doing to bear in mind questions already posed by others. Within this context, Member States who indicate that they are speaking on behalf of groups, will be given priority.

The informal dialogues will take place in two hour segments for each individual candidate. Candidates will be invited to present an opening statement (10 minutes) to be followed by questions from Member States as laid out below. I intend to group questions and candidates will be given the opportunity to respond to Member States’ interventions at regular intervals.

To further enhance the interactive nature of the meeting, Member States are encouraged to pose short, focused questions. As previously mentioned in the annex to my letter of 25 February, Member States are also strongly requested to limit any intervention to a maximum of 2 minutes (groups will be afforded 3 minutes). A mechanism to facilitate compliance with the time limit will be installed, and I intend to enforce this time limit strictly in the interest of ensuring equal opportunity and balanced approach for all candidates as well as Member States.
The meetings will be open and webcast with interpretation in all official languages. A link to each webcast will be posted on my webpage for future record. Additionally, each candidate has been offered the facilitation of a press stakeout after the informal meeting.

Also in the context of transparency and inclusivity, 1-2 representatives from civil society will be given the floor, time permitting. Information about the process of facilitating civil society engagement, with a call for questions, has been available on my website since 26 February.

It is my sincere hope that these informal dialogues will help ensure the appointment of the best possible candidate for the position of Secretary-General.

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

Mogens Lykketoft

To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
Schedule:

Tuesday 12 April:
Morning session (9 AM-1 PM), Trusteeship Council Chamber:
9AM-11AM: Dr. Igor Lukšić
11AM-1PM: Ms. Irina Bokova
Afternoon session (3 PM-5 PM), Trusteeship Council Chamber:
3PM-5PM: Mr. António Guterres

Wednesday 13 April:
Morning session (9 AM-1 PM), Trusteeship Council Chamber:
9AM-11AM: Dr. Danilo Türk
11AM-1PM: Dr. Vesna Pusić
Afternoon session (3 PM-5 PM), Trusteeship Council Chamber:
3PM-5PM: Ms. Natalia Gherman

Thursday 14 April:
Afternoon session (3 PM-5 PM), Trusteeship Council Chamber:
3PM-5PM: Dr. Srgjan Kerim