19 January 2017

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to forward herewith a letter dated 18 January from the co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (AHWG), regarding the tentative program of work of the group.

I look forward to engaging with Member States on this important subject at the AHWG’s first meeting on 20 February.

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

[Signature]

Peter Thomson

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

In his letter dated 24 October 2016, the President of the General Assembly appointed the Permanent Representatives of Croatia and the United Arab Emirates as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (AHWG) at the 71st session, open to all Member States, which was established pursuant to resolution 70/305 of 13 September 2016. The Group sets out to “identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-first session.”

As Co-Chairs, we would like to inform you that the AHWG will commence its substantive work soon, and we have the honor to invite you to its first meeting in the form of a General Debate, which will take place on Monday, 20 February, at 10:00 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. As in previous years, a draft updated inventory chart of GA revitalization resolutions will be made available in advance of the meeting to stimulate the discussions (www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/).

We are also pleased to share with you a tentative program of work for the them-specific meetings of the AHWG, and would appreciate your feedback on the proposed program at the General Debate. The four thematic meetings will be convened as follows:

The first thematic meeting, on the role and authority of the General Assembly, will be held on 15 March 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

The second thematic meeting, on working methods, will be held on 28 March at 10:00 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

The third thematic meeting, on the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads, will be held on 10 April at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.
The fourth thematic meeting, on the strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, will be held on 20 April at 10:00 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

We look forward to your active participation at the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly on 22 February, and remain available for an interactive exchange of views in the months to come. We also wish to express our intention to continue building upon the constructive cooperation and far-reaching achievements made within the AHWG in the previous sessions of the General Assembly, and to continue addressing some of the critical issues relevant to its role and work.

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

Vladimir Drobnjak
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Croatia

Lana Zaki Nusseibeh
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates

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