



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

29 August 2017

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 2 August, 2017 regarding the convening of the High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace, scheduled to take place on 7 September 2017, I hereby attach the final programme of the event.

More information will be available on the event website (<http://www.un.org/pga/71/event-latest/high-level-forum-on-the-culture-of-peace/>).

For additional details, please contact Advisors, Mr. Mohammed Al-Buainain ([al-buainain@un.org](mailto:al-buainain@un.org)) or Ms. Giovanna Maselli ([Giovanna.maselli@un.org](mailto:Giovanna.maselli@un.org)).

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson'.

Peter Thomson

To All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers of the United Nations  
New York

**UNITED NATIONS**  
**HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON THE CULTURE OF PEACE**  
**General Assembly Hall/Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters**  
**Thursday, 7 September 2017**

<b>OPENING SESSION</b> <b>General Assembly Hall</b>	
<b>10:00am -10:30am</b>	<p><b>H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson</b>, President of the 71<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly</p> <p><b>Ms. Ana Maria Menendez</b>, Secretary-General’s Senior Adviser on Policy.</p> <p>Keynote Address:</p> <p><b>Dr. Betty Williams</b>, Nobel Peace Laureate 1976 and world acclaimed advocate for children.</p> <p>Invited Speaker:</p> <p><b>His Eminence Ahmed el-Tayeb</b>, Grand Imam of Al Azhar.</p>
<b>10:30am - 10:45am</b>	<p>Musical Interlude:</p> <p><b>Singers from Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations</b></p>
<b>10.45 am - 1.00 pm</b>	<p><b>Plenary Segment – Statement by Member States and Observers</b></p>

**Panel Discussion on  
“Sowing the Seeds of the Culture of Peace :  
Early Childhood Development is the Beginning”  
Trusteeship Council Chamber**

<b>3.00 pm – 5.30 pm</b>	<p><b>Chair and Moderator:</b></p> <p><b>Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury</b>, Former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the United Nations; Chair of the UN General Assembly Drafting Committee for the Declaration and Programme of Action on Culture of Peace (1998-1999)</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>H.E. Ms. Mary Elisabeth Flores Flake</b>, Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations.</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Federico Mayor</b>, Former Director-General of UNESCO.</li> <li>- <b>H.E. Ms. Katalin Annamaria Bogyay</b>, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations.</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Marta Santos Pais</b>, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children</li> <li>- <b>Ms. Mikiko Otani</b>, Member, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Rima Salah</b>, Chair of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium, UNICEF</li> <li>- <b>Dr. Nancy Hardt</b>, well-renowned researcher on Adverse Childhood Experiences and Resiliency.</li> <li>- <b>Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Babtain</b>, Chairman of Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Interactive discussion and remarks by Member States and other participants</i></p>
--------------------------	--

**CLOSING SEGMENT**

<b>5:30pm - 5:45pm</b>	<p><b>Concluding Remarks by:</b></p> <p><b>H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson</b>, President of the 71<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly</p>
------------------------	---

**High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace**  
**convened by the President of the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the UN General Assembly**

*Thursday, 7 September 2017*  
*General Assembly Hall and Trusteeship Council Council,*

**Overview**

Recognizing the need to further promote the Culture of Peace, particularly in the current global context, and responding to paragraph 13 of Resolution 71/252, the President of the General Assembly, H.E Peter Thomson, will convene a one-day High Level Forum on Culture of Peace, on 7 September 2017, at UN Headquarters, New York.

**Background and objectives**

On 13 September 1999, the General Assembly adopted, by consensus and without reservation, resolution 53/243 on the **Declaration and Programme of Action on Culture of Peace**. Amongst others, it provided the driving force for the advancement of the UN-declared International Decade for Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010).

Through annual substantive resolutions for the last 20 years as well as annual High Level Forums since 2012, the General Assembly has highlighted the priority it attaches to the full and effective implementation of these forward-looking objectives which are universally applicable and sought after by the vast majority of peoples in every nation.

In keeping with this approach, the 7 September High Level Forum aims to highlight emerging trends that impact on the realization of a culture of peace and to enable Member States and others to exchange ideas on further promoting a Culture of Peace.

**Participation**

Member and Observer States are invited to participate at the highest possible level. The meeting is also open to UN agencies, civil society organisations, the private sector and other stakeholders.

**Format, outcome and further information**

The Forum will consist of an opening session, a plenary segment, an interactive panel discussion and a closing segment. The opening session and plenary segment will be held in the General Assembly Hall. The panel discussion will take place in the Trusteeship Council Chamber and will focus on “*Sowing the Seeds of the Culture of Peace : Early Childhood Development is the Beginning*”.

A President’s summary of the meeting will be circulated to Member States.

Further information regarding this meeting will be available on the PGA’s website:  
<http://www.un.org/pga/71/>

**High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace  
convened by the President of the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the UN General  
Assembly**

*10am-6pm, Thursday 7 September 2017  
UN Headquarters, New York*

**Provisional programme**

<i>10am- 1pm</i>	<i>General Assembly Hall</i>
10.00am	Opening Segment
10.45 am	Plenary debate
<i>3.00-5.30pm</i>	<i>Trusteeship Council Chamber</i>
3pm	Panel discussion entitled “Sowing the Seeds of the Culture of Peace : Early Childhood Development is the Beginning”
5.30pm	Closing segment