



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 November 2017

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memo from my meeting on 9 November 2017 with the President of the Economic and Social Council, Her Excellency, Mrs. Marie Chatardová, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations, as part of my commitment to strengthen collaboration and coordination between the principal organs of the United Nations.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', written in a cursive style.

Miroslav Lajčák

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

Meeting between the President of the General Assembly and the President of Economic and Social Council on Thursday 9 November 2017

The President of the 72nd session of the General Assembly, H.E Mr. Miroslav Lajčák met with the President of the Economic and Social Council, H.E. Mrs. Marie Chatardová, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations on Thursday 9 November 2017 as part of their efforts to strengthen relations between the principal organs of the UN and ensure close collaboration and coherence in the work of the General Assembly and ECOSOC.

The two Presidents exchanged views on recent events and developments on issues, which the two organs have a shared interest and highlight where they can work together, in particular the following issues:

The ECOSOC review process

The President of the General Assembly informed the President of the ECOSOC that he is still considering options for the appointment of co-facilitators of the process related to the implementation of the mandate of the General Assembly resolution 68/1 entitled “Review of the implementation of GA resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”. The President of ECOSOC expressed willingness to collaborate with co-facilitators, once appointed, through organizing a series of informal meetings with Member of ECOSOC as well as subsidiary bodies of the Council.

Alignment of the agendas of the GA, the ECOSOC and their subsidiary bodies with the 2030 Agenda

The President of the General Assembly informed the President of ECOSOC of his activities related to the implementation of the mandates of GA resolution 71/323 on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly related to the alignment of the Agendas of the General Assembly, ECOSOC and their subsidiary bodies as well as the HLPF to the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. This includes his meeting with former co-facilitators of the process during previous session of the General Assembly, Ambassadors of Argentina and Australia as well as the upcoming meeting of the General Committee, early December, and his next meeting with Chairs of the main committees to be focused on lessons learned on methods of work.

2018 ECOSOC Special Meeting

The President of ECOSOC provided an update to the PGA on the 2018 ECOSOC Special Meeting to be focused on the theme “Towards sustainable, resilient and inclusive societies through participation of all” in New York, on 23 May 2018. She informed that the Special Meeting will be preceded by a High-level preparatory meeting in Prague, Czech Republic, on 26 and 27 March 2018. The President of the ECOSOC reiterated the invitation to the PGA to participate as guest of honour and address the meeting and the President confirmed his availability to attend.

Events related to SDGs during the 72nd session

The President of the General Assembly informed the President of ECOSOC of his three main Events related to the SDGs implementation, namely the launching of the International Decade for Action: Water for sustainable development 2018-2028 (22 March 2018), the youth and education Event (mid-May) and the SDGs financing in June. Both Presidents agreed on the need to coordinate closely on the organization of these three events as well as related activities within the context of ECOSOC, namely the Youth Forum (30-31 January 2018) and the Financing for Development Forum (23-26 April 2018).

Calendar of meetings of the ECOSOC

The President of the ECOSOC informed the President of the General Assembly that the calendar of meetings within the ECOSOC will be submitted to the adoption of the Council on 10 November 2017 and shared with the PGA subsequently.

Repositioning of the UN development System to deliver on the 2030 Agenda

The President of the ECOSOC informed the PGA that the Secretary General will brief Member States on the process related to repositioning of the UN Development System, on 10 November 2017. The Presidents agreed to discuss this topic at their next monthly meeting, in December.