



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6 December 2017

Excellency,

In order to strengthen the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, for your information, I have the honour to transmit a memo from my recent meeting with the President of the Security Council for the month of December 2017, H.E. Mr. Koro Bessho, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák'.

Miroslav Lajčák

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

PGA Office Memo: Meeting between the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council for the month of December 2017, the Permanent Representative of Japan, on 30 November 2017

The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, met on 30 November 2017 with the President of the Security Council for the month of December 2017, H.E. Mr. Koro Bessho, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations.

The Permanent Representative of Japan briefed the President of the General Assembly (PGA) on the Security Council's programme of work for the month of December 2017. The Japanese Presidency intends to focus mainly on Non-proliferation/DPRK. Japanese Foreign Minister is expected to host a ministerial-level meeting of the Council in this regard. The Council will also hold a briefing at the initiative of Japan to consider the Secretary-General's biennial report on small arms and light weapons. The negative impact of illicit flows of small arms and light weapons on global security and the rule of law was briefly touched upon in discussion between the PGA and Ambassador Bessho. The Japanese President of the Council has also informed about the intention to hold an open debate in December to address complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security. Ambassador Bessho confirmed that the Council will continue to follow various regional issues, including development in Syria with regard to the political and humanitarian situation as well as to the chemical weapons dossier.

The PGA thanked the Permanent Representative of Japan for his briefing and briefly summarized activities of the General Assembly in November 2017. The PGA has also informed Ambassador Bessho about his meeting with chairpersons of all six main committees of the General Assembly, organized with a view to share lessons learned and take stock of the main part of the 72nd session of the General Assembly. Recalling the determination to foster inclusive and transparent discussion, PGA appointed H.E. Mrs. Valentine Rugwabiza, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Rwanda and H.E. Mr. Michal Mlynár, Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic as co-facilitators to lead the intergovernmental consultations on a draft resolution to be adopted by the General Assembly by the end of December 2017, in a follow-up to the informal meeting of the General Assembly to hear a briefing from the Secretary-General on his reform proposal on restructuring of the United Nations peace and security pillar.

The PGA has also indicated his travel plans, which include Nairobi, Kenya as his first official visit to Africa as General Assembly President. During the visit, the PGA would address the United Nations Environment Assembly on 4 December under the overarching theme "Towards a Pollution-Free Planet" and would also meet with representatives from the international community, the Kenyan Government, the United Nations, the private sector, and youth. The PGA is also expected to address the closing of a General Assembly stocktaking meeting on migration in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on 6 December. In this regard, the PGA stressed that migration is a global phenomenon that demands a global response and that multilateralism remains the best way to address global challenges.

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