12 January 2018

Excellency,

On 8 September 2017, the General Assembly adopted the resolution 71/323 entitled “Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly”. By paragraph 73 of the resolution the General Assembly decided, in full respect of the established principle of geographical rotation and its resolution 33/138 of 19 December 1978, to conduct informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly, thus contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process. By the same resolution, the Assembly also called upon candidates to present to the Assembly their vision statements and invited Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly.

By resolution 33/138 of 19 December 1978 the General Assembly decided that in the election of the President of the General Assembly regard shall be had for equitable regional rotation of this office. Consequently, the President of the 73rd session of the General Assembly is to be elected from the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

In accordance with Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the Assembly shall elect a President and twenty-one Vice-Presidents at least three months before the opening of the session over which they are to preside. The election of the President of the 73rd session of the General Assembly shall take place in early June 2018.

Pursuant to the above mandates, and to allow for adequate time between the informal interactive dialogue and the election, I have the honour to inform you that I intend to convene informal interactive dialogues mandated in resolution 71/323 in early May 2018. With a view to facilitate the interaction, candidates will be invited to provide a concise vision statement in a timely manner, allowing it to be circulated through my office to Member States in advance of the dialogue.

Further information regarding the modalities and the dates will be distributed in due course.

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

Miroslav Lajčák

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