



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

30 January 2018

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memo from my meeting on 26 January 2018 with the President of the Economic and Social Council, Her Excellency Ms. Marie Chatardová, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in New York, 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', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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 Friday 26 January 2018**

The President of the 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly, H.E Mr. Miroslav Lajčák met with the President of the Economic and Social Council, H.E. Ms. Marie Chatardová, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations, on Friday 26 January 2018, 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 the ECOSOC.

The two Presidents exchanged views on recent events and developments as well as upcoming activities, in particular:

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

The President of the General Assembly and the President of the ECOSOC discussed the latest development with relation to the process of repositioning the United Nations Development System, in light of the Secretary General Report as well as his briefing to Member States. The President of the ECOSOC informed about the schedule of briefings, the specific topics to be addressed as well as consultations within the context of the Operational Activities Segment. She seized the opportunity to renew the invitation to the PGA to address the segment on 27 February.

The President of the General Assembly informed about his meeting with Deputy Secretary General and expressed the need to ensure further coordination on this process.

As far as the way forward is concerned, both Presidents agreed on the need to ensure transparency and inclusiveness. The process is intergovernmental in nature and Member States will provide guidance on the way forward, including in terms of consultations on the outcome document. They also agreed on the need to use time in an efficient manner in order to ensure delivering on the mandate of QCPR Resolution in a timely fashion.

***Process on strengthening of the ECOSOC***

After appointing 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 the General Assembly will meet Ambassadors of Qatar and Iceland to discuss their plan of work.

The first meeting for the process with Member States is expected on 6 February 2018. The President of the ECOSOC informed that she met with co-facilitators in December.

***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 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 the meeting of the General Committee, dedicated to this issue, convened on 15 December 2017, as well as the appointment of the co-facilitators, Ambassadors of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Belgium. The President will meet the co-facilitators in the next few days to discuss their plan of work.

### ***Participation of the PGA at meetings of the ECOSOC***

The President of the General Assembly informed that he will be addressing the ECOSOC Youth Forum on 30 January 2018. He also confirmed his intention to participate at the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development, to be convened on 23-26 April 2018. The President of the ECOSOC seized the opportunity to update the President of the General Assembly on preparations related to the FFD Forum, including consultations with leadership of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund as well as topics to be addressed.

The President of the ECOSOC extended an invitation to the PGA to address the Partnership Forum, scheduled on 4 April 2018. Furthermore, she informed about the appointment of co-facilitators for the STI Forum, Deputy Permanent Representatives of Japan and Mexico. She is also considering the appointment of co-facilitators for the FFD Forum.

### ***2018 ECOSOC Special Meeting***

The President of ECOSOC provided an update to the PGA on preparations for the High-level meeting in Prague, Czech Republic, on 26 and 27 March 2018. This meeting is convened in preparation of the 2018 ECOSOC Special Meeting to be focused on the theme “Towards sustainable, resilient and inclusive societies through participation of all” and to be convened in New York, on 23 May 2018. The President of the General Assembly confirmed his participation at this important meeting.

### ***Events related to SDGs during the 72<sup>nd</sup> session***

The President of the General Assembly updated the President of ECOSOC on 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 Event (30 May) and the SDGs financing (11 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, in order to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication.