

20 March 2018

## Excellency,

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/7 of 4 November 2015, I have the honor to inform you that I will convene a plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of the victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, on 26 March from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall at United Nations Headquarters.

The theme for this year's observance is "Triumphs and Struggles for Freedom and Equality". As in the previous annual commemorations, and without setting a precedent, I intend to invite Hon. Ms. Graciela Dixon, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Panama, to deliver the keynote statement at the commemorative meeting of the seventy second session of the General Assembly.

In keeping with the decision of the General Assembly on the format of such meetings, Member States are encouraged to deliver regional statements during the commemorative meeting.

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

Miroslav Lajčák

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