Excellency,

Further to my letter of 12 January 2018, I have the honour to inform you that pursuant to paragraph 73 of the General Assembly resolution 71/323, the informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of President of the 73rd session of the General Assembly will be held on Friday, 4 May 2018, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. Time will be announced in the UN Journal.

The annex to the present letter contains the anticipated format for these informal interactive dialogues, aiming at contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process in accordance with resolution 71/323. The format will be replicated for all informal interactive dialogues in order to provide equal opportunities to candidates.

As announced in my letter of 22 February 2018, the election of the President of the seventy third session of the General Assembly will be held at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, 5 June 2018.

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

Miroslav Lajčák

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
Informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of the President of the General Assembly

In its resolution 71/323 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, and called upon candidates to present to the Assembly their vision statements.

The proposed format for the informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of the President of the 73rd session of the General Assembly are as follows:

- The dialogue will be presided by the President of the General Assembly and last up to two hours.
- The dialogue will begin with an introduction by the candidate of vision and priorities for the Presidency (up to 10 minutes), followed by an interactive exchange.
- Member States are encouraged to make concise and interactive interventions not exceeding three (3) minutes.
- Interventions from Member States will be on a first-come, first-served basis, bearing in mind requests from groups.
- The candidate will be given the opportunity to respond to questions and comments at regular intervals during the dialogue.
- Time permitting, the candidate will have the opportunity to respond to questions from other stakeholders, including up to three (3) questions to be drawn by the candidate during the meeting from questions received in writing on the website of the President of the General Assembly prior to the dialogue.
- In line with the overall objective of increasing the transparency and inclusivity of the process, the informal interactive dialogues will be webcast.

The format will be replicated for all informal interactive dialogues in order to provide equal opportunities to candidates.