



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1 May 2018

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter, dated 30 April 2018, from H.E. Ms. I. Rhonda King, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and H.E. Mr. Marc Pecsteen de Buytswerve, Permanent Representative of Belgium, Co-facilitators to lead intergovernmental consultations aimed at enhancing synergies and coherence and reducing overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies, as well as the high-level political forum and other related forums in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in accordance with paragraphs 28, 29 and 30 of resolution 71/323 of 8 September 2017 entitled “Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly”.

This letter informs of a change in the starting time of the next informal meeting on Thursday 3 May 2018 and shares guiding questions for those discussions. The meeting will now be held from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm in Conference Room 4.

It will also be my pleasure to be present at the meeting to open the discussion.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', is positioned above the printed name.

Miroslav Lajčák

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



Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

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30 April 2018

Excellency,

We have the honour to write to you in our capacity as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations related to the General Assembly resolution **71/323** of 8 September 2017 entitled "**Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly**", in particular **paragraphs 28, 29 and 30** related to the ongoing consultations aimed at enhancing synergies and coherence, and reducing overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, the ECOSOC and their subsidiary bodies, as well as the high-level political forum and other related forums, in light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Further to our letter dated 20 April, informing of the first round of consultations held with the Bureau of the second, third and fifth committees, and inviting you to a second round of consultations with Members of the General Assembly, please be advised that the said meeting is now scheduled to take place from **10:30am to 12pm** Thursday 03 May, Conference Room 4. H.E. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd Session of the General Assembly will be present to open the discussions.

The meeting will take stock and follow up on the next steps that were proposed by the co-facilitators last year in their final report to the President of the General Assembly.

Please find attached some guiding questions to assist you in your preparation for the meeting. We look forward to your contribution.

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

Rhonda King
Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and
the Grenadines to the United Nations

Marc Pecsteen de Buytswerve
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

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

2030 Agenda Alignment on ECOSOC and the GA

Thursday 3rd May 2018

- How can we ensure that the General Assembly Committees, the ECOSOC and their subsidiary bodies, the HLPF and other related forums, address the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coherent manner?
- How can the General Assembly Committees coherently incorporate into their agendas, the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs?
- How can we distinguish necessary overlap (e.g. in cases where ECOSOC follows-up on the implementation of GA policy guidance, such as on UN operational activities for development, or in cases where the same issue is addressed from different perspectives) from unnecessary overlap?
- Where do you see the greatest overlaps and the greatest potential synergies between the agendas of those various bodies?
- How can the consultations take into consideration other related processes, such as revitalization of the General Assembly, the review of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of ECOSOC, and the repositioning of the UN development system?