



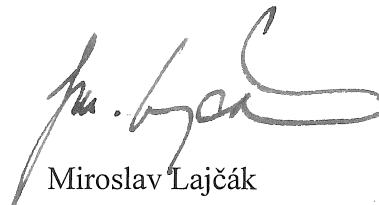
THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

14 June 2018

Excellency,

With reference to the adoption of the General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system on 31 May 2018, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter, dated 14 June 2018, from the United Nations Secretary-General regarding the implementation of the abovementioned resolution.

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

A handwritten signature in black 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



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

14 June 2018

Dear Mr. President, *Dear friend*

I would like to congratulate and thank you for your leadership in the successful adoption of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system on 31 May 2018. The resolution marks a historic moment for the transformation of the United Nations development system and will help ensure that it is fit to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Please convey my deepest gratitude to all Member States for their constructive spirit and for their commitment to ensure a successful outcome.

I also wish to reiterate my special appreciation for the work of the co-facilitators on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, Ambassador Sabri Boukadoum, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations, and Ambassador Ib Petersen, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations, who acted on your behalf to build consensus towards the adoption of the resolution.

I am committed to take swift action as we proceed with the transition into a repositioned United Nations development system. I am already working to put in place a transition team, under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General, to initiate, manage and oversee the implementation of all the provisions of the resolution. It will be a lean structure, which will be active for eighteen to twenty-four months, focusing on strategic direction, progress-tracking towards the deliverables requested in the resolution, and ensuring minimal disruption to our work on the ground. The team will rely heavily on the expertise of and substantive inputs from entities of the United Nations development system, including through dedicated working groups and overall steering by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group.

I am determined to preserve the same spirit of transparency, openness and inclusiveness that has marked the process so far. We will continue to engage all entities across the system and we will be consulting closely with their membership. In that regard, the Deputy Secretary-General will soon launch, on my behalf, a series of informal discussions with Member States,

His Excellency
Mr. Miroslav Lajčák
President of the General Assembly
New York

both individually and in groups to discuss all the mandates of the repositioning process, with a special emphasis on the implementation plan for the inception of the transformed Resident Coordinator system. As requested in the resolution, I will present this plan to Member States before the end of the seventy-second session of the United Nations General Assembly.

To inform the plan, the Deputy Secretary-General will initiate a process of consultation during the course of June to seek the views and perspectives of Member States, in regional groups as well as in cross-regional settings. This process will be followed by briefings by the Secretariat on emerging characteristics of the implementation plan, from July to August, before the final plan is presented to the membership.


I will also be launching soon the Funding Dialogue to operationalize the Funding Compact, in which Member States will again play a central role. I am committed to ensuring that the commitments we are requesting from Member States are matched with equally ambitious actions by the system and better value for money through increased transparency, accountability and system-wide results. In this regard, I draw your attention to the critical need of securing the support of Member States to ensure that the necessary resources for the Resident Coordinator system are mobilized for its operationalization on 1 January 2019.

I also count on Member States to support the overall process of change, including through their active engagement in the Executive Boards of all agencies, funds, programmes, specialized and non-resident entities, as well as on their decisions in their capitals. The guidance of the General Assembly must be translated within the governing bodies of these entities and coherently pursued across the entire United Nations Headquarters.

Transformational change is a complex endeavour. It is never easy, but together we can ensure that it is well-managed and inclusive to ensure smooth transitions and tangible outcomes. I am grateful for your support and leadership so far, and will continue to count on you over the course of the months ahead.

I would be grateful if you could bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the General Assembly.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

agued
with the very warm personal


António Guterres