



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

30 November 2018

Excellency,

I would like to inform you that I will convene an informal meeting of the General Committee on Wednesday, 5 December 2018, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., in Conference Room 2.

The meeting will serve as an opportunity to have a discussion on a number of issues, in particular to:

- 1) Exchange views on the program of work in respect to addressing gaps and duplication in the agenda of the General Assembly as they relate to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in accordance to the General Assembly resolution 72/313, in particular, the paragraphs 29, 30 and 31:

“29. (...) Recalls the need to enhance synergies and coherence and reduce overlap where it is found to exist in the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, and the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and in the light of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls for the continuation of such efforts during the seventy-third session of the Assembly;

30. Requests the General Committee, while exercising its functions under rule 40 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to pay special attention to reduction of such overlap;

Members of the General Committee of
the 73rd session of the General Assembly

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

31. Requests the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session to identify proposals, through consultations with all Member States and the President of the Economic and Social Council, as well as through the convening of the General Committee, aimed at addressing gaps and duplication in the agenda of the Assembly as they relate to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account the report on the strategic alignment of future sessions of the Assembly and other relevant inputs, for the consideration of Member States during the seventy-third session of the Assembly;

2) Seek the initial views of the members of the General Committee on the implementation of the mandate in accordance with paragraph 19 of the General Assembly resolution 70/299, in which the Assembly decided that “(...) the meetings of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and those under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council shall be closely coordinated to ensure coherence and provide for mutually reinforcing linkages, especially when it is deemed appropriate to convene the forum under the auspices of the Council in the same year that it is convened under the auspices of the Assembly in order to provide necessary space for the conduct of voluntary national reviews and thematic reviews, and in this connection also decides that the forum shall have only one negotiated political declaration, covering the different and complementary functions of both sessions of the forum when the forum is convened twice in the same year.”

3) Discuss the preparations for the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in 2020.

I would also like to use this opportunity to reflect on the General Debate week of the 73rd session, as well as the progress in the work of the Assembly, including the work of the Main Committees up until now.

To ensure a transparent process and a productive exchange of views, I would encourage all member states to attend the meeting of the General Committee. This contribution will be important to providing direction for the next steps in the implementation of the mandates and the future work of the General Assembly.

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



María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés