



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

28 June 2019.

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 22 May 2019, I have the honour to forward a letter from H.E. Mr. Craig John Hawke, Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations, and H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations, co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing+25).

The letter of the co-facilitators transmits the attached revised draft of the modalities resolution incorporating the views and positions of delegations as expressed at the second informal meeting and informs Member States of the Third informal consultations to be held on **Wednesday, 3 July 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2.**

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. F. Espinosa Garcés'.

María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

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



Permanent Mission of New Zealand
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar
to the United Nations

27 June 2019

Excellencies,

As Co-Facilitators to lead the intergovernmental consultations on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, we would like to thank you for your active and constructive participation in the second informal meeting on 25 June, to consider the zero draft we had developed on the basis of the views and ideas expressed at our initial meeting on 14 June.

We very much welcome the positive feedback and constructive comments made by delegations on the zero draft during our second meeting. We are confident that the attached revised draft takes into account these views and comments in a balanced manner, and we trust that this draft will accelerate the consensus building process.

Additionally, we have removed the references to sources, and while we re-organized the paragraphs, we kept the initial numbering for easier reference. This numbering will be adjusted in a subsequent iteration of the text. We also endeavored to achieve consistency in terminology across the draft.

We are pleased to invite you to the third meeting, on **Wednesday, 3 July, from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm, in Conference Room 2**. Should a subsequent meeting be necessary, we will inform delegations in due time of its date and time.

We look forward to working together towards finalizing the modalities for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on Beijing+25 in September 2020.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Craig John Hawke
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of New Zealand
to the United Nations

Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar
to the United Nations

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

Draft resolution

Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the significance of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in September 1995,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action¹ adopted in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome documents of its twenty-third special session,²

Recalling its resolution 73/294 of 22 May 2019, entitled “Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women”, in which it decided to convene a one-day high-level meeting **of the General Assembly** in the margins of the general debate at its seventy-fifth session in order to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, so as to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Recognizing that through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development³ and its Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, Heads of State and Government confirmed that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of **all** women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets,

Reiterating that the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session is essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

1. *Decides* that the one-day high-level meeting **of the General Assembly** on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women shall be held in New York on Wednesday, 23 September 2020, in the margins of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, from **9.00 am** to 7.00 p.m., and consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion and a closing segment;

2. *Also decides* that the theme of the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly** will be “Accelerating the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls” and that the **high-level meeting of the General Assembly** will highlight achievements, best practices, gaps and challenges, and recalls that the theme of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations “The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming Our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism” shall guide all activities, meetings and conferences organized by the United Nations in 2020;

¹ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

² General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

³ Resolution 70/1

3. *Further decides that:*

(a) The opening segment, to be held from 9.00 to 10.00 a.m., will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, the Secretary-General, the **Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)**, the **Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, **a representative of China as the host country of the Fourth World Conference on Women**, the Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Chair of the Working Group of the **Human Rights Council** on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, the Special Rapporteur of the **Human Rights Council** on violence against women, its causes and consequences and relevant special procedure mandate holders, as well as a high-level champion of gender equality, a representative from civil society and a young woman leader, to be selected, in consultation with Member States, by the President of the Assembly;

(b) The plenary segment, to be held from 10.00 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., will comprise statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly; a list of speakers will be established in accordance with established practices of the Assembly, and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

(c) The closing segment, to be held from 6.30 to 7.00 p.m., will comprise concluding remarks by the **Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women**, a representative from civil society and the President of the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to organize and preside over an interactive multi-stakeholder forum **following the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2020**, with the active participation of representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly, and parliamentarians, representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, including women's and community-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations, trade unions, national human rights institutions where they exist, academic institutions and the private sector, ensuring the participation and voices of women and girls as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly**, to take stock of the outcomes and recommendations of other processes, including the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women; and also requests the President to prepare a summary of the **interactive** multi-stakeholder forum prior to the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly**; **[Note: the proposed list of civil society organisations has been drawn from para 42 of CSW62 and para 42 of CSW63 Agreed Conclusions]**

9. *Invites* non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with relevant expertise to register with the Secretariat to attend the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly** and the interactive multi-stakeholder forum;

10. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, including women's and community-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations, trade unions, national human rights institutions where they exist, academic institutions and the private sector who may attend the high-level meeting of the General Assembly and participate in the interactive multi-stakeholder forum, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of women and young people, and to submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;⁴ [Note: the proposed list of civil society organisations has been drawn from para 42 of CSW62 and para 42 of CSW63 Agreed Conclusions]

11. *Invites* members of civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia, development partners and other relevant initiatives to make a fundamental contribution to the process in terms of raising awareness of gaps and challenges, and identifying concrete actions to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and its contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Encourages* all Member States to participate in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and invites all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level; and encourages governments to present concrete actions and commitments to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by 2030, including in support of the key role of civil society organizations and youth;

7. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to contribute to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly;

8. *Invites* the United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, to participate in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, as appropriate, and urges them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, particularly with regard to sharing good practices, challenges, lessons learned, and urgent actions that need to be taken for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

12. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their national delegations ministers from all relevant ministries and heads of national mechanisms for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as appropriate, as well as representatives such as parliamentarians, representatives of civil society including from women's

⁴ The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.

organizations, feminist groups, **girls' and** youth-led organizations, faith-based organizations, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders;

13. *Decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly** shall be webcast; and encourages the Secretary-General and UN-Women to give highest visibility to the **high-level meeting of the General Assembly** and its outcome, as well as to the interactive multi-stakeholder forum, through all relevant media platforms and information and communications technologies;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly** and to bring the summary to the attention of Member States, relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting **of the General Assembly**, in close consultation with Member States.