The President of the General Assembly (PGA), H.E. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, met on 13 May 2019 with the President of the Security Council for the month of May, H.E. Mr. Dian Triansyah Djani, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations.

The Permanent Representative outlined the priorities for his country’s presidency, citing the objective is to achieve more interaction. The Security Council’s programme of work for May features two open debates, the first on peacekeeping and the other on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. He added that Indonesia would endeavor to conduct its Council presidency in a smooth manner, using its culture and diplomacy to find unity and consensus.

The PGA commended the programme of work of Indonesia’s presidency which focuses on the important issue of investing in peace, particularly in peacekeeping operations. Both reaffirmed the importance of greater coordination and transparency between the General Assembly and the Security Council in maintaining international peace and security. They also agreed on the needs to have effective communication, especially in explaining the work and deliverables of the UN to the public.

The Permanent Representative mentioned that the Security Council will deliberate on the issue of Yemen and Sahel and is expected to convene another three Arria-formula meetings. The PGA stressed the importance of addressing the crisis in the Sahel and looked forward to a fruitful deliberation on the subject in the Security Council.

The PGA also congratulated Indonesia for a successful national election in April and thanked the Permanent Representative for the secondment of an advisor in her office. The PGA also expressed hope that Indonesia would send high-level representatives for the upcoming PGA-events.