13 January 2020

Excellency,

Young people are among those most affected by the economic, social and environmental challenges facing the world today. Encouraged by their optimism, persistence, resilience and strong belief in individual and collective action, the international community now increasingly sees young people as potential partners in designing effective responses to these challenges while also imagining a new future for the world and its indispensable institution. At the SDG Summit in September 2019, Heads of State and Government and high representatives stated that: “The 2030 Agenda is our promise to the children and youth of today so that they may achieve their full human potential and carry the torch of sustainable development to future generations”.

Member States have called for an inclusive, forward-looking, youth-driven global dialogue for the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations. The “Youth Plenary” on the theme “The Future we want, the UN we need: reaffirming our collective commitment to multilateralism” will be held on 31 March 2020, in conjunction with the ECOSOC Youth Forum. The ECOSOC Youth Forum which will take place on 1-2 April 2020 and will be guided by the theme for the 2020 ECOSOC substantive session and the High-level Political Forum on “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.

As we begin the countdown to 2030, active engagement of young people in advancing accelerated action will be crucial for the success of the 2030 Agenda. We invite your country to participate actively in the Youth Plenary and the ECOSOC Youth Forum. To ensure that youth around the world are given the opportunity to participate, we invite you to nominate and support the participation of your country’s youth delegate(s) and/or youth representatives to both the Youth Plenary and the ECOSOC Youth Forum. They will be joined by a wide range of participants from the youth community, including from the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth, representatives of regional youth organizations, National Youth Councils as well as youth-led and youth-focused organizations.

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
and networks, including those in consultative status with ECOSOC. In addition, the participation of high-level representatives of your government in the Youth Plenary and the ECOSOC Youth Forum would be the opportunity to share your national perspectives on the role of youth in implementing the sustainable development goals in your country.

The Youth Plenary and the ECOSOC Youth Forum will offer valuable platforms to capture ideas and solutions from young people for the coming decade of action for the SDGs and an opportunity to reinvigorate commitment to the renewal of multilateralism.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Patricia Chaves (chavesp@un.org); Mr. Paul Simon (simonp@un.org); and Mr. Vugar Allahverdiyev (allahverdiyev@un.org). We count on your support to communicate the names of your representatives from your delegation to the emails listed above by 3 February 2020.

We look forward to the active participation of your country at these important events.

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

Tijani Muhammad-Bande
President of the General Assembly

Mona Juul
President of the Economic and Social Council