

United Nations Nations Unies

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Excellency,

In line with General Assembly resolution 69/321, and subsequent, related General Assembly resolutions, and recalling the conduct of the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General in 2015-2016, this joint letter serves to set in motion the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations and guided by the principles of transparency and inclusivity.

The term of the incumbent Secretary-General, Mr. Antonio Guterres, concludes on 31 December 2021. The Secretary-General has conveyed his availability to serve a second term in the letter circulated to Member States dated 11 January, in which he also indicated his readiness to meet the expectations of the membership regarding transparency and inclusivity with the submission of a vision statement and participation in an informal dialogue with Member States.

The position of the Secretary-General is one of great importance that requires the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

As detailed in the joint letter of 15 December 2015, Member States presenting candidates should do so in a letter to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council. Candidates should possess proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations, and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills.

The Presidents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council will jointly circulate to all Member States the names of individuals that have been submitted for consideration when received, and will offer all candidates opportunities for informal dialogues or meetings with members of their respective bodies. Informal dialogues with candidates in the General Assembly will take place before the Council begins its selection by May or June 2021, and may continue, if necessary, throughout the process of selection.

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

The Council then plans to make its recommendation to the General Assembly in a timely manner so that the appointment by the Assembly allows the appointed Secretary-General sufficient time to prepare for the term in office.

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



Volkan BOZKIR
President of the General Assembly



Barbara Woodward
President of the Security Council