23 March 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 22 March 2021, from H.E. Ms. Egriselda Aracely González López, Permanent Representative of El Salvador and H.E. Mr. Michal Mlynár, Permanent Representative of Slovakia, the co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) on Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly, regarding the Informal Dialogue between Permanent Missions and the United Nations Secretariat scheduled for Thursday 25 March at 3.00pm in the General Assembly Hall.

The Informal Dialogue will include a briefing on the Secretary-General’s analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of the General Assembly.

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

Volkan BOZKIR

All Permanent Missions
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
23 March 2021

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as Co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (AHWG) during the 75th Session of the General Assembly.

As indicated in our letters of 3 February and 22 February 2021, the Informal Dialogue between Permanent Missions and the United Nations Secretariat and briefing on the Secretary-General’s analysis on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of the General Assembly, will be held on Thursday, 25 March 2021 at 3 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall. The meeting will be webcast live and on demand on United Nations Web TV.

In accordance with resolution 74/303, this important meeting will focus on the analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of the General Assembly and will include a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM), Mr. Movses Abelian. After the briefings, delegations will have the opportunity to participate in a question-and-answer segment and to deliver interventions.

We believe that this will be one of the most relevant discussions of the AHWG during this session, for which it will provide a platform to identify lessons learned, best practices and remaining challenges to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and relevance of the General Assembly.

In accordance with resolution 73/341, attending the Dialogue to respond to any questions and comments by delegations, the following senior representatives of the Secretariat will also be present in the General Assembly Hall:

- Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, Ms. Catherine Pollard;
- Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications, Ms. Melissa Fleming;
- Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, Mr. Atul Khare;
- Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security, Mr. Gilles Michaud;
- Assistant Secretary General for Supply Chain Management, Mr. Christian Saunders;
- Acting Assistant Secretary-General for the Office of Information and Communications Technology, Mr. Patrick Carey;
- Acting Medical Director, Dr. Bernhard Lennartz;

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
There will be no pre-established list of speakers for this meeting. Delegations wishing to take the floor will be invited to press the microphone button on the console before them in the General Assembly Hall during the meeting.

In view of the limited time of the interactive dialogue, we kindly suggest to delegations to limit their statements to 5 minutes, with the exception of statements made on behalf of group of delegations, which can be extended to 7 minutes. To facilitate interpretation, delegations are kindly requested to email their statements to estatements@un.org at least 1 hour in advance of their delivery, indicating the title of the AHWG in the subject line.

Considering the current circumstances, we believe that this Session has considerable political significance for the work of the United Nations. For this reason, we would like to encourage you to take an active part in this meeting and the work of the AHWG. It is only through shared ownership and responsibility that we can achieve further substantive progress in the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

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

Egriselda López
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations

Michal Mlynár
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations