



26 April 2021

Excellency,

Further to my letter of 25 March 2021, I have the honour to write to you regarding the informal interactive dialogue with Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as a candidate, presented by Portugal, for re-appointment to the position of Secretary-General.

This informal interactive dialogue will be held on Friday, 7 May 2021, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the General Assembly Hall. The annex to the present letter contains the format for the informal interactive dialogue. The dialogue will be webcast with interpretation in all official languages.

The informal interactive dialogues for the position of Secretary-General, as provided for in General Assembly resolution 69/321, are an opportunity for candidates to present their vision on challenges and opportunities faced by the United Nations, and for Member States to ask questions and interact with them. I encourage your active participation in this meeting and urge you to respect the interactive nature of the meeting by refraining from making statements.

To ensure this informal interactive dialogue is as inclusive as possible, I have sought questions from civil society and other stakeholders through my web site and social media. Questions can be submitted until 30 April. A selection of those questions will be asked throughout the informal interactive dialogue on 7 May.

Should further candidates be presented in accordance with General Assembly resolution 69/321, additional dates may be scheduled and the format of the dialogue replicated.

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

Volkan BOZKIR

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

ANNEX

Informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of Secretary-General

In its resolution 69/321, the General Assembly decided to conduct informal dialogues or meetings with candidates for the position of Secretary-General. This provision was fully implemented during the 2016 selection and appointment process, with all candidates participating in an informal dialogue with the General Assembly.

The proposed format for the present informal interactive dialogues with candidates for the position of Secretary-General is as follows:

- Candidates will be invited to provide a short, focused vision statement, to be circulated through the Office of the President of the General Assembly, in advance of the informal interactive dialogue.
- The dialogue will be presided over by the President of the General Assembly and last up to three hours.
- The dialogue will begin with an introduction by the candidates of their vision and priorities (up to 10 minutes), followed by an interactive exchange.
- Member States are encouraged to ask concise questions, in line with the interactive nature of the dialogue, with interventions not exceeding 2 minutes for individual delegations and 3 minutes for groups.
- Interventions from Member States will be on a first-come, first-served basis, bearing in mind requests from groups.
- The candidates will be given the opportunity to respond to questions at regular intervals throughout the dialogue.
- The candidates will have the opportunity to respond to questions from civil society and other stakeholders to be selected from questions received through the website of the President of the General Assembly prior to the dialogues.
- In line with the overall objective of increasing the transparency and inclusivity of the process, the informal interactive dialogues will be webcast.

Should further candidates be presented in accordance with resolution 69/321, the format will be replicated for all informal interactive dialogues in order to provide equal opportunities to all candidates.