12 April 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 26 March 2021 regarding the Special Session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, to be held from 2 to 4 June 2021 in the General Assembly Hall, UN Headquarters, New York, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 73/191 and 74/276 as well as General Assembly decision 74/568.

Based on an assessment of the COVID-19 health conditions and following consultations with the General Committee, I have the further honor to enclose herewith a draft decision regarding pre-recorded statements during the plenary meetings of the Special Session. The draft decision, to be issued as A/75/L.75, will be presented for the General Assembly’s consideration at its plenary meeting to be held on Friday, 16 April 2021 at 10:30 a.m., under agenda item 111 entitled “Crime prevention and criminal justice”.

Further information regarding the format of the high-level supporting event in the margins of the Special Session on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation will be communicated in due course.

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

Volkan BOZKIR

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
Draft decision submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Special session of the General Assembly against corruption

The General Assembly, recalling its resolutions 73/191 of 17 December 2018 and 74/276 of 1 June 2020 and its decision 74/568 of 31 August 2020 on the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, noting with concern the situation regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and noting that there are certain limitations in place on access to the United Nations premises as precautionary measures aimed at containing the spread of COVID-19, including quarantine requirements:

(a) Decides, without setting a precedent for future special sessions of the General Assembly, that those who are invited to participate in the opening of the special session in line with paragraphs 2 (b) and 17 of its resolution 74/276, and those who are invited to participate in line with paragraphs 2 (d) and (e) of its resolution 74/276, may submit a pre-recorded statement, which will be played in the General Assembly Hall after introduction by the President of the General Assembly at the special session;

(b) Also decides that Member States, States and regional economic integration organizations parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹ and observers to the General Assembly, in line with paragraph 2 (c) of its resolution 74/276, may submit a pre-recorded statement by their Head of State or Government, head of delegation or other dignitary, which will be played in the General Assembly Hall during the special session, after introduction by their representative who is physically present in the Assembly Hall;

(c) Further decides that, in addition to the verbatim records of the special session, the President of the General Assembly will circulate as a document of the Assembly a compilation document of the statements delivered by means of pre-recorded statements during the special session and submitted to the President no later than the day on which the pre-recorded statement is played in the Assembly Hall, and that such pre-recorded statements will be attached to the verbatim records of the special session.