21 May 2021

Excellency,

Further to the informal meeting on business continuity that took place on Wednesday 19 May 2021, at the GA Hall and in line with the strong call from delegations to improve our in-person work in light of the updated guidelines from the Host Country, I would like to advise of the following measures:

From 1 June 2021, a pilot project will be implemented, where delegations would commit to have only fully vaccinated delegates accessing meetings of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies in the General Assembly Hall.

All delegates will be required to swipe their United Nations (UN) issued identity (ID) card at the entrance of the General Assembly Hall. By swiping their UN issued ID card on entry, all delegates will be declaring, as a condition of their entry to the Hall, that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, in addition to the current requirements (have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days; have not had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days; have not had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, and have completed any locally required quarantine).

This will allow us to increase the size of delegations (1+1) and the participation of other stakeholders. If this pilot project proves successful after four weeks, it could be extended to other conference rooms in line with the paper prepared by the Secretariat.

I encourage continued vigilance so our success to date is maintained in mitigating COVID-19 risks at UN Headquarters.

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

Volkan BOZKIR

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations