



23 June 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith, a letter from H.E. Mr. Julio Arriola, Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations regarding the second virtual informal dialogue to explore possible alternatives for the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, scheduled for Tuesday, 29 June 2021, at 3 p.m.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Volkan Bozkir", is shown above the printed name.

Volkan BOZKIR

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



21 June 2021

Excellency,

I am writing with reference to the informal dialogue to explore possible alternatives for the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities initiated earlier this year following the mandate provided to me by the President of the General Assembly in his letter dated 10 December 2020.

In this regard, the first informal dialogue took place on 20 April 2021 to have an open discussion and listen to Member States general views. Furthermore, in a letter dated 26 April 2021, interested Member States were invited to submit written inputs on making the Pledging Conference more fit for purpose. I wish to thank Member States for their comments and proposals to reinvigorate the Pledging Conference.

Moreover, as was indicated in my previous communication, I wish to convene a second informal dialogue on **29 June at 3 p.m.** to discuss the following options to make the Pledging Conference more dynamic and relevant while encouraging stronger participation. Please note that these options are not necessarily mutually exclusive:

1. Keep the format of the Pledging Conference largely unchanged, with Member States announcing pledges for UN development activities, but expand the scope of the Conference to include all UN funds, programmes and specialized agencies engaged in operational activities for development.
2. Given that individual entities already have their resource mobilization mechanisms, the Conference could be used as a pledging conference focused on funding for system-wide activities around collective results, whether at the global, regional, or country level.
3. The Conference could provide a substantive platform to have an issue-based structured dialogue that could delve into one or more common challenges, opportunities, or emerging funded-related issues faced by the UN development system that could have surfaced from the Secretary-General's progress report on the QPCR and/or the ECOSOC operational activities segment.

Additional dimensions for Member States' consideration could also include:

- a) To appeal to a broader group of Member States, the Pledging Conference could be split into two parts: one part of the Conference could stick to the current format of presentations on funding and country statements of pledges, and the other part could consist of a substantive dialogue modeled after point #3 above.

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



**Permanent Mission of Paraguay  
to the United Nations**

b) The timing of the Pledging Conference is not ideal at present. Member States could consider holding it earlier in the year to better coincide with the funding allocation calendar of several Member States, and/or soon after the ECOSOC operational activities for the development segment, to be informed by the discussions.

Should Member States consider and agree on a new model after these consultations, the General Assembly could adopt a decision to replace the Pledging Conference with the new arrangement, as has been indicated by the President of the General Assembly in his letter dated 16 November 2020.

Therefore, guided by the commitment of facilitating an open, inclusive, and transparent process, and to seize and complement the call by the Secretary-General in the report on the “Review of the functioning of the Resident Coordinator: rising to the challenge and keeping the promise of the 2030 Agenda” to *consider repurposing and recalibrating the Pledging Conference for Development Activities*, I wish to present Member States with a tentative calendar of informal consultations with the intention of receiving your guidance on this regard: (i) Release of the zero draft resolution **6 July** (ii) First informal consultation **28 July** (iii) Second informal consultation **26 August** (iii) Third informal consultation **2 September**.

For further information, your office may contact the following e-mail [fybarraun@gmail.com](mailto:fybarraun@gmail.com) and [qcpr@un.org](mailto:qcpr@un.org). The Secretariat will provide the link to the meeting and other relevant information in due course.

I count on your full engagement and cooperation to move this process forward.

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

Julio Arriola  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of  
Paraguay to the United Nations