



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9 July 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 first consultation to discuss the attached zero-draft decision on possible alternatives to strengthening the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, scheduled for Thursday, 22 July 2021.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Volkan Bozkir".

Volkan BOZKIR

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



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

6 July 2021

Excellency,

I am writing with reference to the informal dialogue to explore possible alternatives for the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

I want to thank you for the constructive engagement on the second informal dialogue convened on Tuesday, 29 June 2021, and for your written inputs. After carefully considering your views and hearing the support from Member States to the idea of making the Pledging Conference more fit for purpose during these informal dialogues, I am pleased to share with you the zero-draft decision, which has been prepared in accordance with the calendar described in my letter dated June 21.

I also have the pleasure of presenting a revised schedule for informal consultations, which has been altered in response to reasonable concerns expressed by several Member States.

- (i) First informal consultation **22 July**
- (ii) Second informal consultation **29 July**
- (iii) If necessary, a third informal consultation will take place on **September 2**

In this regard, I wish to invite you to the first informal consultation on 22 July. The main objective of the first consultation will be to hear your general comments and receive further guidance. I kindly request all delegations to submit the full version of their comments to fybarraun@gmail.com and qcpr@un.org. The following e-mails remain available to receive further inputs or statements at any time during this process.

Once again, I want to reiterate my commitment to ensure an open, inclusive, and transparent process with the goal of reaching a consensus agreement that would increase the political visibility of the Pledging Conference and strengthen its capacity for generating sustainable, adequate, and predictable resources for the operational development activities, and I count on your active participation and support.

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

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

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

United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities

The General Assembly, reaffirming the importance of the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities; recalling its resolution 45/215 of 21 December 1990 on the administrative arrangements for the Conference; recognizing the need to improve funding practices to make voluntary funding more predictable, transparent, flexible, effective and efficient, less earmarked and better aligned with the national priorities and plans of programme countries, as reflected in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, as well as with the strategic plans and mandates of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in order to enable the United Nations development system to work at all levels in a coherent, coordinated, efficient and, where appropriate, integrated manner, reducing duplication and increasing impact; and noting the call made in the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the functioning of the resident coordinator system¹ to consider repurposing and recalibrating the Conference:

(a) Decides to expand the scope of the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities to all United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies engaged in operational activities for development, as well as system-wide activities around collective results, whether at the global, regional or country level;

(b) Also decides to convene the Conference on an annual basis and within existing resources shortly after the operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council session, in order to be informed by the discussions;

(c) Urges the United Nations development system entities to continue to enhance the visibility of Member States' contributions to core resources and pooled funds and related results;

(d) Urges Member States to consider increasing their contributions to the United Nations development system activities.

¹ A/75/905.