President-elect of the United Nations General Assembly for the 77th session

21 July 2022

Excellency,

It is my pleasure to inform you that the President of the General Assembly Fellowship Programme will be continued during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly.

Young people should play a key role in addressing today's complex and interlinked challenges. When given the opportunity, young people have tremendous potential to contribute to transformative solutions that are sustainable, based on science, and demonstrating solidarity within and among societies. In his report on "Our Common Agenda", the Secretary-General also emphasized the urgency to involve youth more actively in the work of the United Nations. Member States have also recognized this need and are currently engaged in discussions on the establishment of a UN Youth Office.

During its first year, the Fellowship Programme has brought together a small group of dedicated young professionals from LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS for a 9-month-long fellowship in New York. The Fellowship gives young diplomats a unique opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge of the United Nations by providing an extensive overview of the functioning of the Organization and by incorporating practical work experience in the Programme. These young professionals have gained invaluable experience as members of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, as well as participating in training sessions organized by UNITAR. The forthcoming second edition of the Fellowship Programme will take into account the lessons learnt from the first year and incorporate adjustments as necessary.

A provisional budget for the Fellowship Programme has been developed in order to cover, inter alia, training, living expenses and a monthly stipend for the selected young people. We envisage to start the selection process of the next group of fellows at the beginning of

the seventy-seventh session, so that they could start their fellowship in New York not later than January 2023.

With that in mind, I would like to turn to you asking for your political and financial support to help the continuation of this promising initiative. Regarding the latter, contributions to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly for the Seventy-Seventh Session (OPGA77) earmarked for the Fellowship Programme would be most welcome and highly appreciated.

Further details about the Programme may be obtained by contacting my Transition Team at eva.schafer@un.org.

I am convinced that by continuing the Fellowship Programme we can meaningfully participate in nurturing the next generation of leaders in support of multilateralism and a strong United Nations.

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

Csaba Kőrösi President-elect of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly

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