

1 August 2022

Excellency,

On 19 July 2022, I circulated a concept note for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to mark the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities to be held on Wednesday, 21 September 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, at United Nations Headquarters.

The Declaration remains the key instrument at a universal level to address the political and civil, economic, social, and cultural rights of persons belonging to minorities. This high-level meeting represents a remarkable opportunity to strengthen commitment towards ensuring these rights. In the spirit of this landmark thirtieth anniversary commemoration, I encourage Member States to incorporate voluntary pledges related to the implementation of the Declaration into their statements to be delivered during the meeting. Member States may consult the guiding questions in the concept note of the high-level meeting to reflect on potential voluntary pledges.

For further information, your office may contact Ms Sim Mellouh, Team Lead (sim.mellouh@un.org, +1 (646) 362 9523), and Ms. DeAndra Cartwright, Adviser (deandra.cartwright@un.org, +1 (917) 213-1143), at my Office.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration

Abdulla SHAHID

( Whilla Man)

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