

2 April 2024

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 77/355 entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly", and paragraph 17 (d), in which the Assembly,

"Invite[d] Member States and United Nations system entities to join the voluntary pledge, contained in annex II to the present resolution, to limit the number of side events held in parallel with or in the margins of the general debate, and requests the President of the General Assembly to circulate the pledge to Member States annually ahead of the general debate and to provide information on States that have signed the pledge on the website of the Office of the President;"

Furthermore, in Annex II of the resolution, the Assembly invited United Nations system entities to express their commitment to this voluntary pledge.

In this regard, I would like to inform that 28 Member States have signed the voluntary pledge to date. The list is available on the PGA website - https://www.un.org/pga/78/voluntary-pledge-on-limiting-side-events/. No United Nations entity has done so yet.

I would like to take this opportunity to seek your cooperation in urging all United Nations system entities to consider signing the Voluntary pledge on limiting side events, as contained in Annex II of resolution 77/355 and attached herewith.

The signed pledge can be sent electronically to Mr. Shojiro Nishimura, Deputy Team Leader of Budget and Administration, UN Reform, GA Affairs at my Office by e-mail at nishimura@un.org, copying opga@un.org.

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

Dennis Francis

Mr. António Guterres Secretary-General of the United Nations **New York**