



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

**REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON THE CONSULTATIONS REGARDING**

**REVITALIZING THE ROLE AND AUTHORITY OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

H.E. Mr. Paul Badji,
the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Senegal

H.E. Mr. Daniele Bodini,
the Permanent Representative of the Republic of San Marino

General Assembly, Sixty-first session
United Nations, New York
August 2, 2007

Contents

I.	<u>Introduction</u>	3
II.	<u>Proceedings</u>	3
III.	<u>Findings</u>	5
IV.	<u>Conclusions</u>	10
V.	<u>Attachments</u>	11
	a. Letter from the President, March 9 th , 2007	
	b. Non-Paper distributed on April 30 th , 2007	
	c. Draft resolution distributed on June 6 th , 2007	
	d. Letter from the President, July 25 th , 2007	
	e. Draft resolution, A/61/L.65, distributed, July 31 st , 2007	

I. Introduction

1. On March 9th 2007, the President of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, H.E. Sheika Haya Rashed Al-Khalifa, entrusted us to conduct consultations with the Membership on taking forward the issue of Revitalization of the General Assembly in the current session (see attached letter). We were asked to conduct open transparent and inclusive consultations with Member States on their views regarding “...*the establishment of an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the Assembly, open to all Member States: to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on relevant Assembly resolutions and reviewing the agenda and working methods of the Assembly; and to submit a report to the Assembly its sixty first session, pursuant to paragraph 31 of GA RES 60/286.*”

II. Proceedings

2. We proceeded in three stages:
 - Gathering ideas through Bilateral Meetings
 - Roundtable Interactive Debates
 - Plenary Meetings with discussion of GA Draft Resolution

3. Gathering ideas through Bilateral Meetings

We conducted bilateral meetings with a wide group of Member States and encouraged them to express their ideas and positions on what they considered to be the most pressing items affecting the General Assembly. Based on more than 80 interviews with Permanent Representatives, a meeting with the Secretary-General as well as meetings with other members of the Secretariat, we identified six major topics of concern as documented in our Non-Paper distributed on April 30th (see attached).

4. Roundtable Interactive Debates

After our preliminary findings, we promoted constructive interactive debates among randomly selected, small groups of Member States. Having observed in past General Assembly meetings, that often, only a few countries take the floor, it was our intention to encourage every delegation to express their views on General Assembly Revitalization. As a matter of fact, every Member State has a major stake in the General Assembly and is protective of its prerogatives and rights (one seat, one vote). We are pleased to report that approximately 160 countries participated and shared their views during these six debates, held on May 14, 15, 16 and 18. Most meetings generated positive and concrete ideas, and we believed that a window of opportunity opened up to begin working on a new substantive resolution, drafted and distributed to Member States on June 6th (see attached).

5. Plenary Meetings with discussion of GA draft resolution

Plenary meetings were held on June 12th, 19th, 26th 28th 29th, July 13th and one informal “informal” consultation was held on July 16th. During these meetings, we reviewed our proposed draft resolution and discussed suggestions from Member States. Despite the considerable interest of some countries and groups to negotiate a substantive resolution, we found that consensus could not be reached in the 61st session. We therefore followed the suggestion of several Member States to request the President of the General Assembly to present a procedural resolution for adoption in the 61st session (distributed to Member States on July 25th) and for us to prepare this report to record our findings as Co-Facilitators.

III. Findings

6. During our bilateral and roundtable meetings, Member States highlighted the lackluster performance of the General Assembly and noted its decline in importance at the United Nations. Many delegations expressed dissatisfaction regarding the role of the General Assembly, its deteriorating working methods, the selection/election process of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General, the lack of implementation of the General Assembly Resolutions in general, and in particular on General Assembly Revitalization Resolutions among many other concerns. Following is a summary of Member States' recommendations on how to tackle these different issues:

General Assembly –

7. All Member States reaffirmed the central "*position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations...*" (A/RES/60/286). Moreover many delegations stressed the need for the General Assembly to become more active in its above mentioned role, including when dealing with issues of peace and security. A significant number of delegations felt strongly about the potential "encroachment" of some United Nations organs, upon the role of the General Assembly. On the other hand, some countries expressed worry over a possible "reverse encroachment". Several delegations pointed out that the role of each United Nation organ is already set out in the Charter and only needs to be fully exercised.

Role and Working Methods of the General Assembly–

8. During our discussions, many Member States reiterated a desire to strengthen the role of the President and the General Committee in order to enable the General Assembly to carry out its work in a more effective and efficient way. For this to happen, it has been suggested that enhanced prerogatives shall be given to the President of the General Assembly. It has been suggested for

instance, that the President of the General Assembly could, with the assistance of the General Committee, consult with the Member States and make recommendations to the Secretary-General prior to the establishment of the annual General Assembly agenda.

9. A large number of delegations were pleased about the success and frequency of General Assembly thematic debates during this session, sponsored by the President of the General Assembly (in fulfillment of previous General Assembly resolutions), and they expressed support for this practice in future sessions. Throughout our conversations, some delegations repeatedly pointed out the potential encroachment by different United Nations organs on such thematic debates and therefore several suggested that the President of the General Assembly should coordinate such debates in cooperation with other United Nations bodies, in particular the Security Council and ECOSOC.
10. Most, if not all, delegations reaffirmed the need for meetings at least one month before the end of the three-month transition period, formal coordinating meetings between the incoming and outgoing bureaus of the main committees should be arranged.
11. A topic of considerable interest to many Member States has been the consolidation of reports and the streamlining of future resolutions. Despite the agreed upon importance of this issue, there is a strong difference of opinion on how to make progress.
12. With few exceptions, many delegations highlighted the need for further rationalization of time spent in the General Assembly. Different alternatives to address such concerns have been considered, including a mandatory time limit on speeches.

13. Many delegations expressed satisfaction with the interaction between Member States' Parliaments and the General Assembly and encouraged furthering this practice.
14. While most delegations indicated an overall acceptance of the interaction between NGOs and the General Assembly, several Member States criticized the increasing use of General Assembly time by NGOs, reasserting that the General Assembly must maintain its intergovernmental nature.

Presidency of the General Assembly –

15. Many delegations reiterated the need to enhance the role of the Presidency and identified some recommendations to further strengthen its role and increase its effectiveness.
16. On the selection of the President of the General Assembly, all Member States expressed satisfaction with the practice of regional rotation. However, many delegations indicated support for the election of the President of the General Assembly and suggested different alternatives:
 - a) Regional groups shall support more than one Member State to declare candidates for election.
 - b) Regional groups shall support one Member State to declare more than one candidate for election.
 - c) Regional groups shall support one Member State to declare one candidate for election.
 - d) Regional groups shall support one Member State to declare one candidate for election by acclamation (present practice).
17. Many delegations identified the need for a healthier public image of the General Assembly. Some proposed enhanced media coverage for the President of the General Assembly, others pointed out that if the General Assembly did more significant work, media coverage would increase.

18. A majority of delegations felt strongly that the office of the President should be adequately funded and therefore supported adjusting the budget according to its need; a few expressed their disagreement, fearing that additional funds will create an unwanted bureaucracy in the President of the General Assembly office.
19. A number of delegations suggested that the President of the General Assembly should receive adequate protocol services, at least similar, to those accorded to the Secretary-General, at United Nations Headquarters and abroad.

Secretary-General/Secretariat –

20. While a few countries reiterated their concern about addressing this issue immediately after the election of a new Secretary-General, many others wanted to discuss this item and pick up on the progress made in the last session. A large majority of delegations welcomed the idea of having the declared candidates presented to the Member States in the General Assembly, beginning as early as one year before the Secretary-General elections. While most countries indicated satisfaction that the final selection of the Secretary-General is carried out by the Security Council, a very large number of delegations reiterated a desire to vote and elect the Secretary-General (by open or secret ballot). Other delegations supported the existing tradition of electing the Secretary-General by acclamation. A large majority of countries welcomed a regional rotation in the selection of the Secretary-General.
21. Many, if not all delegations, responded positively toward the idea of establishing the practice of regular informal briefings by the Secretary-General in the General Assembly.
22. During our conversations, we found that almost all the Member States noted inefficiencies in the performance of the Secretariat as well as a growing lack of accountability to the Member States. Many countries expressed openness

toward giving more flexibility to the Secretariat in exchange for increased accountability to the General Assembly.

Implementation of General Assembly Resolutions –

23. We found that implementation of General Assembly Resolutions is of utmost concern to all Member States. In fact, most countries expressed that the non-binding nature of General Assembly Resolutions makes its work less relevant. During our discussions, we asked delegations to express their views on this problem. Many countries suggested that Member States should take responsibility for General Assembly Resolution implementation concerning their country, while others proposed that a specific ad hoc working committee be formed to monitor this task. Several delegations suggested that the office of the President, with the General Committee should monitor and stimulate the implementation of General Assembly Resolutions. Some pointed out that the Secretary-General could be more involved in ensuring General Assembly Resolution implementation. Very few were content with the existing situation.
24. However, there was consensus to achieve full implementation of all previous General Assembly Resolutions on Revitalization as soon as possible during the 62nd session.
25. All delegations agreed to request the Secretary-General to prepare an updated report on the status of implementation of past and present Resolutions on General Assembly revitalization, during the 62nd session.
26. A significant number of Member States expressed the desire to establish an ad hoc working group on Revitalization of General Assembly at the 62nd session, to continue this work and make sure that past resolutions are implemented in their entirety.

IV. Conclusions

27. Throughout our work as Co-Facilitators, we found that all Member States confirmed their strong desire to revitalize the General Assembly and to strengthen its efficiency. When delegations were approached bilaterally and in small groups, a wealth of ideas came forth, some of which, are reported in this paper. Issues such as coordination of the work among the main bodies of the United Nations, participation in the selection/election process of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General, working methods between the Secretariat and the General Assembly, and implementation of the General Assembly resolutions, especially General Assembly Resolutions on Revitalization, are all of great interest to the vast majority of Member States. However, several delegations decided that it was not possible to negotiate a substantive resolution before the end of the 61st session. Therefore, taking into account the concerns and wishes of the Member States, we recommend that based on the content of the existing resolutions, and on the new ideas raised during the last few months and reported in this paper, a new General Assembly Revitalization Resolution should be negotiated during the 62nd session.

V. Attachments

- a. Letter from the President, March 9th, 2007
- b. Non-Paper distributed on April 30th, 2007
- c. Draft resolution distributed on June 6th, 2007
- d. Letter from the President, July 25th, 2007
- e. Draft resolution, A/61/L.65, distributed, July 31st, 2007



9 March 2007

Excellency,

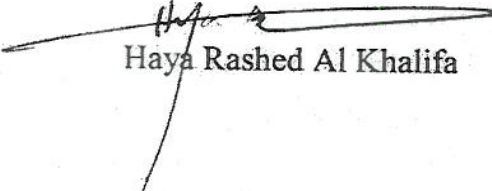
In my letter of 22 December 2006, I informed Member States of my intention to conduct consultations on the preferred format for taking forward the issue of **Revitalization of the General Assembly**, in order to achieve a concrete outcome during this session.

I am therefore pleased to inform you that I have appointed His Excellency Ambassador Bodini of San Marino and His Excellency Ambassador Badji of Senegal as co-Chairs on General Assembly revitalization.

I have asked them to conduct, on my behalf, open, transparent and inclusive consultations with Member States' on their views regarding the "*... establishment of an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the Assembly, open to all Member States: to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on relevant Assembly resolutions and reviewing the agenda and working methods of the Assembly; and to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session*", pursuant to paragraph 31 of General Assembly resolution 60/286.

I invite all Member States to assist Ambassador Bodini and Ambassador Badji in this important task and to clearly express their views on the different issues under consideration.

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



Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

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

Revitalization of the General Assembly

May 2007

Non-Paper

by

H.E. Mr. Paul Badji, Permanent Representative of Senegal
H.E. Mr. Daniele Bodini, Permanent Representative of San Marino

The following list may guide you in preparing your views for the upcoming consultations on 14, 15 and 16 May 2007. All topics will be discussed during each debate. Member States are invited to provide written comments by May 10th 2007, and transmit them via email to sanmarinoun@hotmail.com and senegal.mission@yahoo.fr

I. Revitalization of the General Assembly

1. Framework for discussion of GA Revitalization:
Open-ended ad hoc working group or not - periodicity
2. Status of Implementation - A/RES/58/126, A/RES/58/316, A/RES/59/313 and A/RES/60/286 and Implementation of future Resolutions of GA Revitalization

II. General Assembly

3. Orientation Role
4. Thematic debates – content, number, outcomes
5. Limiting speeches to 5 minutes. Longer statements in written form
6. Interactive Debates for PR or DPR level only
7. Redundancy of votes at Committee and GA level
8. Transition between outgoing and incoming bureau of each Main Committee
9. Streamline the agenda of each Committee
10. Role of the GA on issues of peace and security

III. Presidency of the General Assembly

11. Strengthen the Office of the PGA
12. Media exposure of the PGA and the GA
13. Proper protocol for the PGA
14. Mechanism to maintain institutional memory in the PGA office
15. Increase budget of President's office (unchanged since 1998)

IV. Secretary-General/Secretariat

16. Selection process of the Secretary-General
17. Election process of the Secretary-General
18. Regular briefing by the Secretary-General to the GA
19. Interactive meeting with the Secretary-General at the GA on specific issues
20. Flexibility - Accountability for the Secretariat as a means to enhance its response to the work of the GA

V. Security Council

21. Implementing provisions of previous resolutions on the relationship between the GA and the SC-A/RES/58/126
22. Regular Verbal reports (Presidents or members of the SC) to the GA and specific written reports

VI. Implementation of General Assembly Resolutions

23. Responsibility of each Member State to implement GA resolutions
24. Responsibility for implementing GA Resolutions (PGA, General Committee, New Implementation Committee, or combination of the three)
25. Chart on the status of implementation – timing, accuracy
26. Streamlining agenda/dormant issues
27. Effectiveness of the General Committee
28. Please rank the VI above areas of Revitalization in order of importance:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

61/ _____

Draft Resolution on Strengthening the role of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work¹,

Aware of the need to strengthen its authority and role,

Decides to adopt the text contained in the annex to the present resolution.

6 June 2007

Annex

A. General Assembly

1. Member States reaffirm the authority of the General Assembly and its central role as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, pursuant to the UN Charter and to the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.
2. The main activities of the GA are to foster debate among all Member States and to provide recommendations on issues of common interest, including Development, Peace and Security, Conflict Prevention, Human Rights, Environment, Climate, etc.

B. Role and Working Methods of the General Assembly

3. The PGA, with the assistance of the GC, prepares the GA agenda, in consultation with Member States.
4. The PGA has the authority, after consulting with Member States, to convene thematic debates in order to address main issues of concern to the international community and to propose, if needed, coordination of such debates with other bodies of the UN, including the SC and ECOSOC.
5. In order to avoid redundancy and duplication, the PGA, after consultation with the General Committee and each committee bureau, ensures that the General Assembly does not repeat voting on resolutions already acted upon at the Committee level, unless requested by a Member State.

¹ Resolutions 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264 of 29 July 1994, 51/193 of 17 December 1996, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301 of 13 March 2003, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004, 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and 60/286 of 9 October 2006.

6. At least one month before the end of the three-month transition period, formal coordinating meetings between the incoming and outgoing bureau of the main committees are arranged.
7. At the beginning of each session the PGA, consulting with States concerned and assisted, if necessary, by the General Committee and each main committee bureau, makes recommendations on how to best organize the work of the session, including consolidation of reports and streamlining of future resolutions.
8. PRs, acting PRs and DPRs are strongly encouraged to participate in GA meetings. 48 hours in advance of any GA meeting, the PGA decides if there is any time limit on the length of individual speeches or not. In case of a time limit, the PGA determines the length of time and enforces the limit.
9. The GA encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the GA and the national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
10. While preserving the intergovernmental character of the General Assembly and according to the existing procedure, the President of the General Assembly organizes exchanges of views on relevant subjects with participation of civil society, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues.

C. Presidency of the General Assembly

11. Consistent with the principle of regional rotation, regional groups are required to provide at least three candidates for the position of PGA. The GA will invite declared candidates to participate in interactive meetings with the whole membership and the GA will proceed to election. The same country cannot present candidacy for PGA until the entire membership has had the opportunity to serve in that capacity.
12. The PGA and his/her office are responsible for accessing and informing media of GA activities in a timely and effective manner. The DPI office is required to support these efforts.
13. The Office of General Assembly Affairs is required to provide assistance as needed to the President's office, especially to ensure that the office retains memory of the previous Presidency.
14. The office of the Protocol is requested to ensure that the PGA is provided with proper protocol services at Headquarters and any where else when the PGA is exercising his/her official duties.
15. Consistent with the goal to strengthen the PGA's role, it is recommended that the budget of the PGA office is funded accordingly.

D. Secretary-General/Secretariat

SG selection / election

16. It is desirable that one year before the end of the SG's term, consideration be given to the successor. The General Assembly invites declared candidates to participate in interactive meetings with the whole membership.
17. Upon the SC recommendation on the candidates, the GA votes and appoints the SG (two-third majority).
18. Regional rotation is strongly recommended in the selection of SG candidates.

Relationship between the Secretariat and the General Assembly

19. Regular informal briefings by the SG to the GA are scheduled every 4 -6 weeks by invitation from the PGA or by request from the SG.
20. Each session, the PGA, in conjunction with the SG, organizes 2-3 open interactive thematic meetings among the membership of the GA and the SG.
21. The GA allocates human and financial resources for the Secretariat. The Secretary-General is committed to enhancing the performance of the Secretariat. The GA requests the SG to prepare, in the next few months, a proposal to allocate resources in a more flexible and efficient way in order to ensure the implementation of the mandates of the UN principle organs, while enhancing accountability and transparency.

E. Coordination between the main bodies of the UN

22. Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council are encouraged to meet periodically to facilitate increased cooperation and coordination.
23. If needed, the SC submits special reports to the GA on the affairs of the Council. The GA welcomes the President of the SC to discuss the SC work with the whole membership.

F. Implementation of GA Resolutions

24. The implementation of GA resolutions related to Member States is the responsibility of each Member State.
25. When requested by the PGA, the Secretariat prepares interim assessments on the implementation status of GA resolutions on specific issues. Countries not in compliance with GA resolutions are encouraged to report on the status of implementation of these resolutions.

26. The Secretariat should report on the status of implementation of GA resolutions pertaining to it that have not yet been fully implemented. The PGA should follow up on the implementation of these outstanding Resolutions until they are fully implemented.
27. It is the responsibility of the Secretariat, and the membership to work with the PGA to ensure implementation of all GA Resolutions on Revitalization (58/126 of December 19, 2003, 58/316 of July 1, 2004, 59/313 of September 12, 2005 and 60/286 of October 9, 2006), past and present, by December 31, 2007. To ensure implementation of these and future resolutions on GA revitalization, the GA establishes an open-ended ad hoc working group.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

d. Letter from the President, July 25th, 2007

25 July 2007

Dear Excellency,

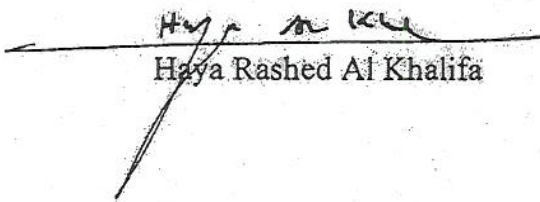
I have the honour to enclose herewith the letter of their Excellencies, Ambassador Paul Badji, Permanent Representative of Senegal and Ambassador Daniele D. Bodini, Permanent Representative of San Marino, dated 25 July 2007, in their capacity as the facilitators on the question of "The Revitalization of the General Assembly", containing a draft resolution on the issue as requested by the majority of Member States.

I would like to commend Ambassadors Badji and Bodini for their tireless efforts in conducting wide-ranging consultations with Member States and groups of Member States. I am confident that the entire membership shares with me this feeling of appreciation to their commitment and diligence.

I am hopeful that we will be able to adopt the attached draft resolution by consensus in the General Assembly on Thursday, 2 August 2007. The journal will indicate the exact time of the meeting.

Once again, I would like to thank all Member States for their support and assistance provided throughout the process of consultations on this very important issue.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.


Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

To
All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
31 July 2007

Original: English

Sixty-first session

Agenda item 110

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Revitalizing the role and authority of the General Assembly and strengthening its performance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work, including resolutions 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264 of 29 July 1994, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301 of 13 March 2003, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004, 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and 60/286 of 8 September 2006,

Stressing the importance of implementing resolutions on the revitalization of its work,

Commending the President of the General Assembly for her efforts during the sixty-first session, in particular with regard to holding thematic debates on issues of high importance to the Member States, as well as increasing the visibility of the General Assembly and its work in the public, especially the media,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an update to his report¹ on the implementation of resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286 and the present resolution, at its sixty-second session;

2. *Decides* to establish, at its sixty-second session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the General Assembly, open to all Member States, to evaluate and assess the status of implementation of relevant resolutions, to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly, inter alia, by building on previous resolutions, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly.

¹ A/61/483.



2 August 2007

**Statement of H.E. Ms. Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa,
President of the 61st Session of the General Assembly,
after the Adoption of General Assembly Resolution on Revitalization**

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The General Assembly has just adopted Resolution (61/292) on Revitalizing the role and authority of the General Assembly and Strengthening its performance. I commend all Member States for their support and cooperation throughout this process.

It gives me also great pleasure to congratulate the two Facilitators: Ambassador Badji, the Permanent Representative of Senegal; and Ambassador Bodini, the Permanent Representative of San Marino for their tireless efforts and dedication in leading the consultations on this important agenda item.

I wish to express my most sincere appreciation to the Facilitators for conducting wide-ranging consultations which provided the Membership an opportunity to convey their concerns and expectations on how best to revitalize the General Assembly.

The Resolution just adopted stresses the importance of implementing General Assembly resolutions on revitalization.

It is our common responsibility.

I am convinced that the report which will be submitted by the Secretary-General, pursuant to operative paragraph one, will assist Member States in this task. In this context, it should provide the ad-hoc working group, called for in operative paragraph two, the basis for its future deliberations.

I welcome this new step to strengthen the performance of the General Assembly, an objective to which I am personally attached. Based on my discussions with the President-elect, Dr. Kerim, I trust this matter will be given the full attention it deserves during the sixty-second session.

Thank You.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2 August 2007

Dear Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose for your reference the report of their Excellencies Ambassador Paul Badji, Permanent Representative of Senegal, and Ambassador Daniele Bodini, Permanent representative of San Marino on the consultations they conducted as Facilitators on Revitalizing the Role and Authority of the General Assembly.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration


Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

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



25 July 2007

Dear Excellency,

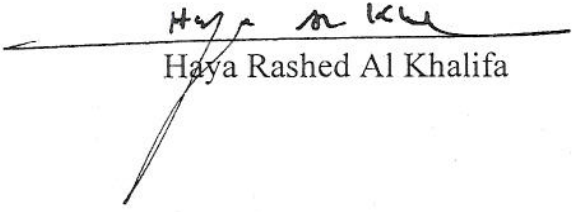
I have the honour to enclose herewith the letter of their Excellencies Ambassador Paul Badji, Permanent Representative of Senegal and Ambassador Daniele D. Bodini, Permanent Representative of San Marino, dated 25 July 2007, in their capacity as the facilitators on the question of "The Revitalization of the General Assembly", containing a draft resolution on the issue as requested by the majority of Member States.

I would like to commend Ambassadors Badji and Bodini for their tireless efforts in conducting wide-ranging consultations with Member States and groups of Member States. I am confident that the entire membership shares with me this feeling of appreciation to their commitment and diligence.

I am hopeful that we will be able to adopt the attached draft resolution by consensus in the General Assembly on Thursday, 2 August 2007. The journal will indicate the exact time of the meeting.

Once again, I would like to thank all Member States for their support and assistance provided throughout the process of consultations on this very important issue.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.


Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

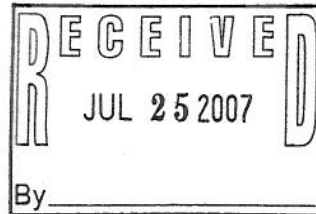
To
All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations



July 25, 2007

Excellency,

It is our honor to present you with the enclosed draft resolution on the Revitalization of the General Assembly as requested by the majority of Member States. It is our hope that it will be adopted by consensus at the 61st session of the Assembly.

We are in the process of completing a detailed report on our findings as Co-Facilitators of the Revitalization of the General Assembly that we expect to submit to you on July 27, 2007.

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

H.E. Sheika Haya Rashed Al-Khalifa
President of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly
United Nations
New York



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

July 13, 2007

Excellencies,

Following today's informal meeting, we have decided to hold informal informal consultations open to all member states on Monday, July 16th at 3:00 pm in Conference Room 8.

During this time, a working group will study and revise the proposed draft on Revitalizing the role and authority of the General Assembly and Strengthening its Performance.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of vertical strokes followed by a horizontal line.

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and curves.

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

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



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

July 5, 2007

Excellencies,

Thank you for your participation in the open meetings on the revitalizing of the General Assembly thus far. We remain encouraged by your feedback and look forward to completing these negotiations with consensus.

Due to the pressing engagement of one of us, we must schedule our next meeting for the morning of Friday, July 13th. We would like to continue this meeting in the afternoon and the following week until the process is complete.

Attached, please find a revised draft which incorporates much of the feedback given during the last meeting.

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

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

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

Draft Resolution on Revitalizing the role and authority of the General Assembly and Strengthening its performance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work, including Resolutions 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264 of 29 July 1994, 51/193 of 17 December 1996, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301 of 13 March 2003, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004, 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and 60/286 of 9 October 2006.

Aware of the need to strengthen its authority and role,

Decides to adopt the text contained in the annex to the present resolution.

6 June 2007

Annex

A. General Assembly

1. Member States recall the preamble of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006.	Member States recall the preamble of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006, in which it reaffirms the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law.
2. Member States recall paragraph 1 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006.	Member States recall paragraph 1 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006 in which it reaffirms the role and the authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, as stipulated in Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter.

B. Role and Working Methods of the General Assembly

<p>3. Bearing in mind rules 12, 13, 14 and 15 of the rules and procedures of the General Assembly, Member States consult with the PGA, with the assistance of the GC on the GA agenda and make recommendations to the SG prior to the establishment of such agenda.</p>	
<p>4. The Member States recall paragraph 3 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006. The GA also gives the authority to the PGA to coordinate, if needed, thematic debates with other bodies of the UN, including the SC and ECOSOC.</p>	<p>The Member States recall paragraph 3 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006, which encourages the holding of thematic interactive debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community in the General Assembly, and invites the President of the Assembly to propose themes for such interactive debates, in consultation with Member States.</p>
<p>5. Deleted</p>	
<p>6. At least one month before the end of the three-month transition period, formal coordinating meetings between the incoming and outgoing bureau of the main committees are arranged.</p>	
<p>7. Deleted</p>	<p>Modified and moved to 30</p>
<p>8. Considering the importance of issues discussed by the General Assembly, the Member States are encouraged to participate in these meetings at the highest level possible.</p>	
<p>9. The Member States recall paragraph 13 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006.</p>	<p>The Member States recall paragraph 13 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006, which encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the GA and national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union.</p>
<p>10. The Member States recall paragraph 12 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006.</p>	<p>The Member States recall paragraph 12 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006, which encourages enhanced interaction, as and where appropriate, with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the General Assembly and in conformity with the relevant rules of procedure.</p>

C. Presidency of the General Assembly

<p>11. Consistent with the principles of regional rotation, regional groups are required to provide, in a transparent, inclusive and democratic process, an appropriate candidate for the position of PGA.</p>	
<p>11 bis. The GA will invite the candidate to participate in interactive meetings with the whole membership, before proceeding to elect the PGA in accordance with the rules and procedures of the GA.</p>	
<p>12. The Member states recall paragraph 16 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006.</p>	<p>The Member states recall paragraph 16 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006, which encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson.</p>
<p>13. The GC should have a more effective role of council and assistance to the PGA and should take more part in conducting the GA affairs.</p>	
<p>13 bis. The GA invites the PGA to assign to the Vice-President more effective roles in conducting the GA affairs particularly in facilitating negotiations of resolutions on some issues.</p>	
<p>14. The GA urges the Secretariat to provide to the PGA with proper protocol services commensurate to his or her role and authority. The GA invites the Members States to provide adequate protocol services for the PGA when traveling in their respective country.</p>	
<p>15. Consistent with the goal to ensure that the PGA has the ability to perform his/her role effectively, the budget of the office of the President must be reviewed every 3 years by the GA.</p>	

--	--

D. Secretary-General/Secretariat

<p>16. Recalling paragraphs 17 - 22 of 60/286, it is desirable that one year before the end of the SG's term, consideration be given to the successor. The President of the General Assembly consults with Member States to identify potential candidates endorsed by a Member State for the position of Secretary General and, upon informing all Member States of the results, forward these results to the Security Council. The General Assembly invites declared candidates to participate in interactive meetings to present their views to the plenary.</p>	
<p>17. Upon the SC recommendation on the declared candidates, the GA appoints the SG, either by acclamation or by secret ballot.</p>	
<p>18. Member States recall paragraph 18 of RES 60 / 286 of 9 October 2006.</p>	<p>The Member states recall paragraph 18 of RES 60/286 of 9 October 2006, which emphasizes, bearing in mind the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, the need for the process of selection of the Secretary-General to be inclusive of all Member States and made more transparent and that, in the course of the identification and appointment of the best candidate for the post of Secretary-General due regard should be given to regional rotation and gender equality, and invites the Security Council to regularly update the General Assembly on the steps it has taken in this regard.</p>

Relationship between the Secretariat and the General Assembly

<p>19. Informal briefings by the SG to the GA are scheduled when appropriate (5-6 times a year) by invitation from the PGA or by request from the SG.</p>	
<p>20. Deleted</p>	
<p>21. Deleted</p>	

E. Coordination between the main bodies of the UN

<p>22. Member States recall paragraph 2 of RES 60 / 286 of 9 October 2006.</p>	<p>Member States recall paragraph 2 of RES 60 / 286 of 9 October 2006, which urges the Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council to meet periodically to ensure increased cooperation and coordination of their work programmes in accordance with their respective responsibilities under the Charter; the President of the Assembly shall inform Member States about the outcome of those meetings on a regular basis.</p>
<p>22 bis. Member States invite the SC and the ECOSOC to ensure full coordination with the GA before holding the thematic debates on any area of work of the GA and to report to the GA on the outcome of those thematic debates.</p>	
<p>23. Recalling para. 2 c, d and e of RES 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and taking into account the existing procedures for coordination, the GA reiterates its request to the SC.</p>	<p>Decides, in the context of further strengthening the role and authority of the GA as set out in the Charter of the United Nations:</p> <p>c. To consider the annual reports as well as special reports of the Security Council, in accordance with art. 15, par. 1 and art. 24, par 3 of the Charter, through substantive and interactive debates;</p> <p>d. To invite the SC to submit periodically, in accordance with art. 24 of the Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the GA for its consideration on issues of current international concern;</p> <p>e. to also invite the SC to update the GA on a regular basis on the steps it has taken or is contemplating with respect to improving its reporting to the Assembly.</p>

F. Implementation of GA Resolutions

<p>24. Member States are urged to take responsibility for the implementation of Resolutions pertaining to them.</p>	
<p>25. At the request of the GA, the Secretariat prepares interim assessments on the implementation status of GA resolutions on specific issues. Countries are encouraged to report on the status of implementation of GA resolutions pertaining to them.</p>	
<p>26. The Secretariat should report, in a timely manner, on the status of implementation of GA resolutions</p>	

<p>pertaining to it that have not yet been fully implemented. The PGA should follow up on the implementation of these outstanding Resolutions until they are fully implemented.</p>	
<p>27. The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on revitalization of the work of the General Assembly;</p>	
<p>28. The General Assembly reaffirms the importance of implementing all resolutions regarding the revitalization of its work, and requests the secretary general to submit a progress report with a factual chart to the General Assembly on the implementation of all such resolutions, including resolutions 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286 and the present resolution at its sixty-second session.</p>	
<p>29. The General Assembly decides to establish, at its sixty-second session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the Assembly, open to all member states, to evaluate and assess the status of implementation of relevant resolutions, to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter-alia, by building on those resolutions and to submit a report there on to the Assembly.</p>	
<p>30. The ad hoc working group should make recommendations on how best to organize the work of the session including the consolidation of reports and the streamlining of resolutions.</p>	



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

June 22, 2007

Excellency,

Following the informal meetings of June 12th and June 19th, we would like to thank you for your feedback and constructive contributions.

We are pleased to follow your wishes and immediately begin open negotiations on a draft resolution, beginning Tuesday June 26th. It is our intent to reach a consensus and continue meeting through next week and beyond if necessary. We propose using the enclosed revised text as a guide. Please check the journal for time and location.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of vertical strokes followed by a horizontal line.

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and curves.

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

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

61/ _____

Draft Resolution on Strengthening the role of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of its work, including Resolutions 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264 of 29 July 1994, 51/193 of 17 December 1996, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301 of 13 March 2003, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004, 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and 60/286 of 9 October 2006.

Aware of the need to strengthen its authority and role,

Decides to adopt the text contained in the annex to the present resolution.

6 June 2007

Annex

A. General Assembly

<p>1. Member States reaffirm the authority of the General Assembly and its central role as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, pursuant to the UN Charter. Or Member States reaffirm the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policy making and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law (60/286 of 9 October 2006).</p>	<p>Deleted - and to the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.</p>
<p>2. The main activities of the GA are to foster debate among all Member States and to provide recommendations on issues of common interest. Or Member States reaffirm the role and the authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, as stipulated in Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate using the procedures set forth</p>	<p>Deleted - including Development, Peace and Security, Conflict Prevention, Human Rights, Environment, Climate, etc.</p>

<p>in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter (par. 1, annex of 60/286 of 9 October 2006).</p>	
---	--

B. Role and Working Methods of the General Assembly

<p>3. Consistent with rule 12 of the Rules & Procedures of the General Assembly, the PGA with the assistance of the GC should consult the Member States and make recommendations to the SG prior to the establishment of the GA agenda.</p>	<p>Modified To be discussed</p>
<p>4. The GA encourages the holding of thematic interactive debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community in the General Assembly, and invites the President of the Assembly to propose themes for such interactive debates, in consultation with Member States (par. 3 of 60/286 of 9 October 2006). The GA also gives the authority to the PGA to coordinate, if needed, thematic debates with other bodies of the UN, including the SC and ECOSOC.</p>	<p>Deleted - The PGA has the authority, after consulting with Member States, to convene thematic debates in order to address main issues of concern to the international community and to propose, if needed, coordination of such debates with other bodies of the UN, including the SC and ECOSOC.</p>
<p>5. Deleted</p>	<p>Deleted - In order to avoid redundancy and duplication, the PGA, after consultation with the General Committee and each committee bureau, ensures that the General Assembly does not repeat voting on resolutions already acted upon at the Committee level, unless requested by a Member State.</p>
<p>6. At least one month before the end of the three-month transition period, formal coordinating meetings between the incoming and outgoing bureau of the main committees are arranged.</p>	<p>Same</p>

<p>7. At the beginning of each session the PGA, consulting with States concerned and assisted, if necessary, by the General Committee and each main committee bureau, makes recommendations on how to best organize the work of the session, including consolidation of reports and streamlining of future resolutions.</p>	<p>To be discussed</p>
<p>8. Considering the importance of issues discussed by the General Assembly, the Member States are encouraged to participate in these meetings at the highest level possible.</p>	<p>Modified Deleted - PRs, acting PRs and DPRs are strongly encouraged to participate in GA meetings. 48 hours in advance of any GA meeting, the PGA decides if there is any time limit on the length of individual speeches or not. In case of a time limit, the PGA determines the length of time and enforces the limit</p>
<p>9. The Member States encourage where appropriate, continued cooperation between the General Assembly and national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union (par.13 of 60/286 of 9 October 2006).</p>	<p>Same</p>
<p>10. The Member States encourage enhanced interaction, as and where appropriate, with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the General Assembly and in conformity with the relevant rules of procedure (paragraph 12 of 60/286 of 9 October 2006).</p>	<p>Deleted - While preserving the intergovernmental character of the General Assembly and according to the existing procedure, the President of the General Assembly organizes exchanges of views on relevant subjects with participation of civil society, in particular those from developing countries, on relevant issues.</p>

C. Presidency of the General Assembly

<p>11. Consistent with the principle of regional rotation, regional groups are required to provide one candidate for the position of PGA. The GA will invite the declared candidate to participate in interactive meetings with the whole membership. Thereafter, the GA will proceed to election by secret ballot.</p>	<p>Modified To be discussed</p>
<p>12. The GA encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson. (par. 16 of 60/286 of 9 October 2006).</p>	<p>Deleted -The PGA and his/her office are responsible for accessing and informing media of GA activities in a timely and effective manner. The DPI office is required to support these efforts.</p>
<p>13. Deleted</p>	<p>Deleted - The Office of General Assembly Affairs is required to provide assistance as needed to the President's office, especially to ensure that the office retains memory of the previous Presidency.</p>
<p>14. The GA urges the Secretariat and the Member States themselves to provide to the PGA with proper protocol services at Headquarters and anywhere else when the PGA is exercising his/her official duties.</p>	<p>Modified</p>
<p>15. Consistent with the goal to strengthen the PGA's role, it is recommended that the budget of the PGA office is funded accordingly.</p>	<p>To be discussed</p>

D. Secretary-General/Secretariat

16. It is desirable that one year before the end of the SG's term, consideration be given to the successor. The President of the General Assembly consults with Member States to identify potential candidates endorsed by a Member State for the position of Secretary General and, upon informing all Member States of the results, forward these results to the Security Council. The General Assembly invites declared candidates to participate in interactive meetings to present their views to all state members of the GA.	Modified
17. Upon the SC recommendation on the declared candidates, the GA appoints the SG, either by acclamation or by secret ballot.	Modified
18. Regional rotation is strongly recommended in the selection of SG candidates.	Same

Relationship between the Secretariat and the General Assembly

19. Regular informal briefings by the SG to the GA are scheduled every 4 -6 weeks by invitation from the PGA or by request from the SG.	Same
20. Deleted	Deleted - Each session, the PGA, in conjunction with the SG, organizes 2-3 open interactive thematic meetings among the membership of the GA and the SG.
21. The GA allocates human and financial resources for the Secretariat. The Secretary-General is committed to enhancing the performance of the Secretariat. The GA requests the SG to prepare, in the next few months, a proposal to allocate resources in a more flexible and efficient way in order to ensure the implementation of the mandates of the UN principle organs, while enhancing accountability and transparency.	To be discussed

E. Coordination between the main bodies of the UN

<p>22. Delete</p>	<p>Deleted - Presidents of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council are encouraged to meet periodically to facilitate increased cooperation and coordination.</p>
<p>23. Member States recall Par. 1, c, d, e from 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and urge the elected members of the SC to discuss the SC work with the whole membership on a monthly basis.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>c. To consider the annual reports as well as special reports of the Security Council, in accordance with art. 15, par. 1 and art. 24, par 3 of the Charter, through substantive and interactive debates;</p> <p>d. To invite the SC to submit periodically, in accordance with art. 24 of the Charter, special subject- oriented reports to the GA for its consideration on issues of current international concern;</p> <p>e. to also invite the SC to update the GA on a regular basis on the steps it has taken or is contemplating with respect to improving its reporting to the Assembly;</p>	<p>Modified</p> <p>Deleted - If needed, the SC submits special reports to the GA on the affairs of the Council. The GA welcomes the President of the SC to discuss the SC work with the whole membership.</p>

F. Implementation of GA Resolutions

<p>24. Member States are urged to take responsibility for the implementation of Resolutions pertaining to them.</p>	<p>Modified</p> <p>Deleted - The implementation of GA resolutions related to Member States is the responsibility of each Member State.</p>
<p>25. At the request of the GA, the Secretariat prepares interim assessments on the implementation status of GA resolutions on specific issues. Countries not in compliance with GA resolutions are encouraged to report on the status of implementation of these resolutions.</p>	<p>Modified</p> <p>To be discussed</p>
<p>26. The Secretariat should report on the status of implementation of GA resolutions pertaining to it that have not yet been fully implemented. The PGA should follow up on the implementation of these outstanding</p>	<p>Same</p>

Resolutions until they are fully implemented.	
<p>27. It is the responsibility of the Secretariat, and the membership to work with the PGA to ensure implementation of all GA Resolutions on Revitalization (58/126 of December 19, 2003, 58/316 of July 1, 2004, 59/313 of September 12, 2005 and 60/286 of October 9, 2006), past and present, by the <u>end of the 62nd session</u>. To ensure implementation of these and future resolutions on GA revitalization, the GA establishes an open-ended <u>implementation ad hoc working group</u>.</p>	<u>Modified</u>
<p>28. As requested by par. 31 of 60/286 of 9 October 2006, the Member States will establish an ad hoc working group on revitalization of the Assembly in the 62nd session.</p>	New To be discussed



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

June 13, 2007

Excellencies,

Thank you for your participation in the first informal open meeting on the strengthening (revitalizing) of the General Assembly. We were encouraged by your feedback and look forward to finding consensus on this issue.

We are continuing to work on the draft document, incorporating suggestions that were made in the open forum yesterday. Please feel free to contact us with your written or verbal feedback.

We'd like to take this opportunity to invite you to the second informal open meeting on June 19th, 2007.

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

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

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



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

June 6, 2007

Excellencies,

After over three months of consultations, we are pleased to present you with the draft document on the strengthening (revitalizing) of the General Assembly.

This draft is the result of over 80 bilateral interviews, and more than 130 verbal contributions in the 6 round table interactive debates held in May.

We will have our first informal open meeting on Tuesday, June 12th and the second one on Tuesday, June 19th.

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

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

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



Permanent Mission of Senegal
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of San Marino
to the United Nations

April 30, 2007

Excellency,

It is our honor to inform you that over the past weeks, in our capacity of Co-Facilitators for the Revitalization of the General Assembly, we have met with over 90 Member States and several Secretariat Officials to gather views and ideas on how to further revitalize the General Assembly. Attached, please find a list of issues raised by Permanent Representatives during these meetings which will serve as a basis for upcoming consultations.

We propose to convene a series of six interactive debates on May 14, 15, and 16, 2007. You will be invited to attend one of these six meetings with approximately 30 other Member States. The program of interactive debates is also enclosed herewith for your information. Immediately after the conclusion of the debates, we will prepare a draft resolution and circulate it to all Member States for their consideration.

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

Ambassador
Mr. Paul Badji
Permanent Representative of Senegal

Ambassador
Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Permanent Representative of San Marino

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

Revitalization of the General Assembly

Non-Paper

by

H.E. Mr. Paul Badji, Permanent Representative of Senegal
H.E. Mr. Daniele Bodini, Permanent Representative of San Marino

The following list may guide you in preparing your views for the upcoming consultations on 14, 15 and 16 May 2007. Member States are invited to provide written comments/views/proposals by May 10th 2007, and transmit them via email to sanmarinoun@hotmail.com and senegal.mission@yahoo.fr

I. Revitalization of the General Assembly

1. Framework for discussion of GA Revitalization:
Open-ended ad hoc working group or not - periodicity
2. Status of Implementation - A/RES/58/126, A/RES/58/316, A/RES/59/313 and A/RES/60/286 and Implementation of future Resolutions of GA Revitalization

II. General Assembly

3. Orientation Role
4. Thematic debates – content, number, outcomes
5. Limiting speeches to 5 minutes. Longer statements in written form
6. Interactive Debates for PR or DPR level only
7. Redundancy of votes at Committee and GA level
8. Transition between outgoing and incoming bureau of each Main Committee
9. Streamline the agenda of each Committee
10. Role of the GA on issues of peace and security

III. Presidency of the General Assembly

11. Strengthen the Office of the PGA
12. Media exposure of the PGA and the GA
13. Proper protocol for the PGA
14. Mechanism to maintain institutional memory in the PGA office
15. Increase budget of President's office (unchanged since 1998)

IV. Secretary-General/Secretariat

16. Selection process of the Secretary-General
17. Election process of the Secretary-General
18. Regular briefing by the Secretary-General to the GA
19. Interactive meeting with the Secretary-General at the GA on specific issues
20. Flexibility - Accountability for the Secretariat as a means to enhance its response to the work of the GA

V. Security Council

- 21. Implementing provisions of previous resolutions on the relationship between the GA and the SC-A/RES/58/126
- 22. Regular Verbal reports (Presidents or members of the SC) to the GA and specific written reports

VI. Implementation of General Assembly Resolutions

- 23. Responsibility of each Member State to implement GA resolutions
- 24. Responsibility for implementing GA Resolutions (PGA, General Committee, New Implementation Committee, or combination of the three)
- 25. Chart on the status of implementation – timing, accuracy
- 26. Streamlining agenda/dormant issues
- 27. Effectiveness of the General Committee
- 28. Please rank the VI above areas of Revitalization in order of importance:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9 March 2007

Excellency,

In my letter of 22 December 2006, I informed Member States of my intention to conduct consultations on the preferred format for taking forward the issue of **Revitalization of the General Assembly**, in order to achieve a concrete outcome during this session.

I am therefore pleased to inform you that I have appointed His Excellency Ambassador Bodini of San Marino and His Excellency Ambassador Badji of Senegal as co-Chairs on General Assembly revitalization.

I have asked them to conduct, on my behalf, open, transparent and inclusive consultations with Member States' on their views regarding the "*... establishment of an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the Assembly, open to all Member States: to identify ways to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on relevant Assembly resolutions and reviewing the agenda and working methods of the Assembly; and to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixty-first session*", pursuant to paragraph 31 of General Assembly resolution 60/286.

I invite all Member States to assist Ambassador Bodini and Ambassador Badji in this important task and to clearly express their views on the different issues under consideration.

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



Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

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