



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

19 January 2018

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to forward herewith a letter dated 19 January 2018 from the co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (AHWG), H.E. Mr. Vladimir Drobnyak, Permanent Representative of Croatia, and H.E. Ms. María Emma Mejía Vélez, Permanent Representative of Colombia, announcing the first meeting of the AHWG and containing its tentative program of work for the upcoming meetings.

I look forward to engaging with Member States on this important subject at the AHWG's first meeting to be held on 20 February 2018 at 3 pm in Conference Room 4.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miroslav Lajčák

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



Permanent Mission of Colombia
to the United Nations



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

19 January 2018

Excellency,

In his letter dated 10 November 2017, the President of the General Assembly appointed the Permanent Representatives of Colombia and Croatia as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (AHWG) at the 72nd session, open to all Member States, which was established pursuant to resolution 71/323 of 8 September 2017. The Group sets out to “identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-second session.”

As Co-Chairs, we have the honor to announce the **first meeting of the AHWG** in the form of a general debate, which will take place on **Tuesday, 20 February 2018, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 4**. As in previous years, a draft updated inventory chart of GA revitalization resolutions will be made available in advance of the meeting to stimulate the discussions (www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/).

We are also pleased to share with you a tentative program of work for the upcoming meetings of the AHWG, and would appreciate your feedback on the proposed program at the general debate. The four thematic meetings will be convened as follows:

- The first thematic meeting, on the **role and authority of the General Assembly**, will be held on 9 March at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.
- The second thematic meeting, on **working methods**, will be held on 20 March at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.
- The third thematic meeting, on the **selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads**, will be held on 16 April at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.
- The fourth thematic meeting, on **strengthening the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly**, will be held on 27 April at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Additionally, we wish to convey that the interactive dialogue between Permanent Missions and the Secretariat, as mandated by operative paragraph 10 of resolution 71/323, has been tentatively scheduled for 5 April at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

The Co-Chairs wish to remind that pursuant to operative paragraph 36 of resolution 71/323, the general debate and the thematic meetings of the AHWG will for the first time be webcast.

We look forward to your active participation at the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly on 20 February, and remain available for an interactive exchange of views in the months to come. We also wish to express our intention to continue building upon the constructive cooperation and far-reaching achievements made within the AHWG in the previous sessions of the General Assembly, and to continue addressing some of the critical issues relevant to its role and work.

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



María Emma Mejía Vélez
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Colombia



Vladimir Drobnjak
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Croatia

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