

27 April 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith, a letter from H.E. Mr. Michal Mlynár, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations, and H.E. Mrs. Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, co-facilitators of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (AHWG). The letter invites Member States to a meeting of the AHWG on 5 May 2020 to discuss the way forward for the remaining work of the AHWG in view of the challenges related to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

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

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

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





PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, 24th April 2020

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as the Co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Revitalisation of the Work of the General Assembly (AHWG) to follow-up on our letter dated 25 March 2020 and inform you about the proposed way forward on the work of the AHWG in the context of the current unprecedented challenges related to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

Since the situation, according to the predictions, will not substantially improve in the coming weeks and we will probably not be able to resume in-person meetings, we propose to use this opportunity to reflect on the current state-of-play, challenges that lie ahead, identify emerging best practices (for instance the recent deliberations of the Fifth Committee) and determine possible ways forward in the revitalization process.

As you are well aware, we managed to hold the general debate of the AHWG and two thematic debates in the UNHQ before the pandemic forced us all to work remotely. The two remaining thematic debates on the SG selection process and on the Office of the PGA as well as the informal dialogue between the Permanent Missions and the UN Secretariat were cancelled as indicated in our letter of letter 25th March, 2020.

Therefore, we would like to invite the esteemed delegations to an informal virtual meeting of the AHWG on revitalization on Tuesday, 5th May 2020 at 10:00 a.m. The main objective of the informal meeting is to discuss the way forward for the remaining part of the work of the AHWG for this GA session.

The virtual meeting will be held using the Microsoft Teams platform that enables a full GA membership. More details on the technical aspects of the meeting (dial-in) and where to find them will be provided shortly.

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York Lastly, we would like to point out that this platform has some limitations indeed: a) It does not support simultaneous translation, so the meeting will have to be held in English and b) the maximum number of participants is 250.

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

Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee Ambassador Permanent Representative of Ghana

to the United Nations

Michal Mlynár Ambassador Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations