



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7 October 2005

Excellency,

In response to the broad agreement that was expressed during our meeting on 4 October on the need to promptly begin our work on the Human Rights Council, I called the first informal consultations of the plenary on the Human Rights Council to be held on Tuesday, 11 October, at 10 a.m. Ambassador Ricardo Alberto Arias of Panama and Ambassador Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo of South Africa have kindly agreed to serve as Co-Chairs for these negotiations.

Emphasizing that our negotiations need to be conducted in a manner that is transparent, inclusive and efficient, I will on Tuesday morning present to you a timetable for our work.

The Summit Outcome Document, which is the primary basis of our work, identifies the issues on which there is a need to find agreement. I would, therefore, suggest that we start our discussions by focusing on the following issues:

1. Status
2. Mandate and functions
3. Size, composition and membership
4. Rules of procedure and methods of work

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

Jan Eliasson

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