



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

15 June 2006

Excellency,

Further to my letter of 21 April, I wish to call your attention to the upcoming informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, scheduled to take place on 22 June 2006.

As you are aware, these hearings shall serve as an input to the High-level meeting on the midterm comprehensive review of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 which will be held on 18 and 19 September 2006 in New York.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/228, the purpose of the review is to "... assess progress made in the implementation of the commitments and provide the occasion to reaffirm the goals and objectives agreed upon at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries; share best practices and lessons learned; and identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives to overcome them and important measures for the further implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action; as well as new challenges and emerging issues...".

By deciding to organize these hearings, the General Assembly stressed the important contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to achieve the objectives of the Brussels Programme of Action and the international community's efforts to halve poverty and improve the well-being of peoples, in particular in the least developed countries.

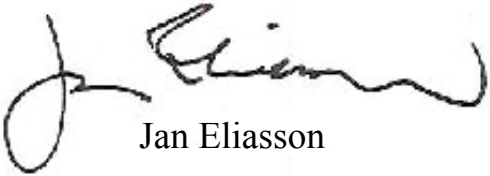
I am convinced that these hearings will offer an excellent opportunity for a fruitful and engaging dialogue between Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector.

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

I therefore wish, once again, to invite your Excellency to attend and actively participate in this one-day informal interactive meeting.

I shall inform you shortly of the organizational arrangements set for the hearings.

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



Jan Eliasson