



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2 December 2013

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a draft decision entitled “Commemoration of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”.

By its resolution 2217 (XXI) of 19 December 1966, the General Assembly approved the recommendation that a prize or prizes should be awarded, for the first time, on 10 December 1968, on the occasion of the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that, thereafter, prizes should not be awarded more often than at five-year intervals. The Assembly last commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 2008.

As 2013 marks the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is proposed that the Assembly mark this occasion, including with an award ceremony, at a commemorative plenary meeting to be held on 10 December 2013.

It is my intention to put forward this draft decision for consideration and action by the General Assembly on Monday, 9 December.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Ashe".

John W. Ashe

To All Permanent Representatives
And Permanent Observers
To the United Nations
New York

**Commemoration of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

The General Assembly, guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993 and recalling its resolution 2217 (XXI) of 19 December 1966 on the International Year of Human Rights, specifically its Recommendation C that a prize or prizes should be awarded, for the first time on 10 December 1968, on the occasion of the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that prizes should not be awarded more often than at five-year intervals,

- (a) *Decides* to hold a commemorative plenary meeting on 10 December 2013 on the occasion of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- (b) *Decides further* that the commemorative plenary meeting will include the award ceremony for the United Nations prize in the field of human rights;
- (c) *Decides* that the President of the Human Rights Council and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will deliver statements at the commemorative plenary meeting.