

5C-Sitzung am 5.11.

- Welcome you all back, hope everybody is fine after Hurricane Sandy
- as you have seen immediately after the Hurricane, last Wednesday, the Bureau took the decision to move elections from Friday the 2nd to Friday 9th november.
- we also decided to wait till today, Monday, in order to resume the work of the Committee. Other Committees started already last week, but with many mission and many homes still without power we thought that it would be better to wait, to give all delegations the chance to be present and take part in the sessions
- the problem is obviously that we have lost a full week in the PoW. But not only that, also the ACABQ has lost time. They already started working overtime to make up for some of the time lost.
- the Bureau will meet with the Chairman of the ACABQ tomorrow to discuss the PoW. But I am concerned that the ACABQ has not yet finished discussions on HRM and Umoja.
- it is very important that some of the time lost is recovered.
- my appeal to all delegates is to make a joint effort to speed up discussion on all the items we have already introduced. Before we come to HRM, Umoja, SPM's, Umoja and the other issues we should close some of the other items
- move now to the **Briefing by the Secretariat** on the effects of hurricane Sandy to the UNHQ.
- we are grateful to all staff members who were working during and after the storm in order to prevent further damage, also 5C secretariat which was in contact with the Bureau during these days
- apart from the damage caused to the UNHQ, the management of the crisis is obviously also an issue of concern for member states
- there are things that can be done better
- one of them was the limited communication between the Secretariat and the Missions on the closures Monday till Wednesday, as well as on the reopening for business on Thursday. Many missions received to information, only through the website for staff news, also on the UN Website no information
- the SG has requested his Chef de Cabinet, USG Malcorra, to look into the lessons learned. We agreed that she will brief the 5C on the outcome of this analysis.