



31 July 2007

Excellency,

I wish to refer to General Assembly Resolution 61/291 of 24 July 2007 entitled "*Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects*".

In accordance with paragraph 2 of the aforementioned resolution, I was mandated to convene, during the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, an ad hoc open-ended working group to consider the "*Draft United Nations policy statement and draft United Nations comprehensive strategy on assistance and support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel*", contained in document A/60/877.

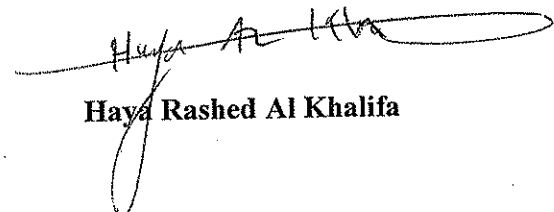
I have the honour to inform you that H.E. Ambassador Jorge Urbina, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica, has agreed to act as the Chairperson of the above-mentioned ad hoc open-ended Working Group.

I would like to express my appreciation to Ambassador Urbina for accepting this task and wish him every success in this important work. I trust that you will render him the necessary support in discharging his functions.

Furthermore, in view of the issues touched on by the draft policy statement and draft comprehensive strategy, I would encourage the involvement of an array of experts in the work of the Working Group.

The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse will hold an organizational meeting on Friday, 3 August 2007. The exact time and meeting room number will be reflected in the journal.

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



Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

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