

2 April 2009

Excellency,

As you are aware from the proceedings of the 78th plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held yesterday, 31 March 2009, action on draft resolution A/63/L.66 on the modalities of the organization of the United Nations conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development has been postponed to a later date to allow time for the review by the Fifth Committee of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

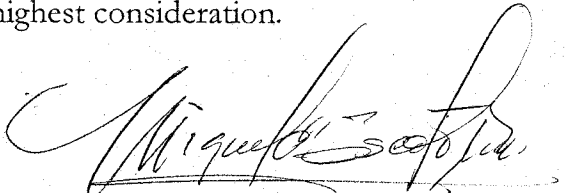
In the mean time, it has been drawn to my attention that the date 1 to 3 June 2009, intended for the convening of the Conference, poses difficulties for a considerable number of countries. There are several high level parallel meetings that will be held during the first few days of June. From 1 to 3 June, the 39th regular session of the Organization of American States at ministerial level will be held in San Pedro, Honduras. On 1 June is the inauguration day for the new government of El Salvador. From 4 to 7 June, European Union Member States will conduct European Parliament elections. In the period 4 to 7 June, the Russian Federation will be hosting the International Economic Forum as well as the World Grain Forum in Saint Petersburg. It is my understanding that these events will affect the schedules of Heads of State and Government of several Member States.

In view of the above and in order that participation at the United Nations conference can be at the highest level for a meaningful outcome, it becomes necessary to find a date that is convenient to Member States. In this connection, I propose to convene the United Nations conference from 9 to 11 June 2009, instead of 1 to 3 June as originally planned. I will be grateful for your understanding and cooperation.

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations

In the absence of comments by Member States by noon, Monday, 6 April, we will consider this proposal to be approved. The co-facilitators will then make the necessary arrangements for the change. It is my intention to schedule a plenary meeting on Tuesday, 7 April for the General Assembly to take action on this revised draft resolution. By then, it is expected that the Fifth Committee will have concluded its deliberation on the draft resolution.

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



Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann