

23 August 2012

Excellency,

Following adoption by consensus of the resolution 53/243 on 13 September 1999 on the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, establishing the principles and foundations of the Culture of Peace, the United Nations General Assembly through its subsequent annual substantive resolutions has highlighted the priority it attaches to the full and effective implementation of this visionary and universally applicable decision. In addition, the Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the "International Year for the Culture of Peace" (52/15) and declared the period 2001 to 2010 as the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World" (53/25).

Bearing this mind and recognizing the need for an additional boost to the global movement to promote the Culture of Peace, as envisaged by the United Nations, particularly in the current global context, I have the honour to convene a High Level Forum on the Culture of Peace on 14 September 2012 from 10.00 am to 6.00 pm at the United Nations headquarters.

This day-long, first-ever General Assembly High Level Forum is intended to be an open public opportunity for the UN Member States, UN system entities, civil society including NGOs, media, private sector and all others interested to have an exchange of ideas and suggestions on the ways to build and promote the Culture of Peace. A special focus obviously will be on the implementation of the 1999 Programme of Action on Culture of Peace.

A detailed programme of the Forum will be sent to you shortly.

I would like to extend a warm invitation to all Member States and observers, UN system entities and civil society to attend and participate at the Forum to contribute to the deliberations aimed at advancing the Culture of Peace.

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

Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser

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