

23 August 2012

Excellency,

Further to my letters of 6 July and 7 August sent to the Chairs of the Regional Groups regarding the modalities for the list of speakers for the one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly on "The rule of law at the national and international levels" to be held on 24 September 2012, and being fully aware of the strong interest that this high-level Meeting has generated among the membership, I would like to propose an increase in the number of speaking slots previously allocated to each regional group, taking into account the operative paragraphs 15 (a) and 17 of the General Assembly resolution 66/102.

In paragraph 17, the General Assembly requested me, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements of the meetings, including the list of speakers for the plenary, taking into account the length of the high-level meeting, the level of representation, equitable geographical representation and the need to ensure that all listed speakers will have the opportunity to speak.

Bearing these stipulations in mind and with a view to assisting regional groups in coming to an agreement in their respective consultations, I would like to propose that the number of speaking slots previously indicated in my letter dated 6 July be increased by a total of 14. As a result, the distribution among regional groups would be as follows: Africa 21, Asia-Pacific 21, Eastern Europe 9, Latin America and the Caribbean 12, and Western European and Others 11.

In order to allow for this additional increase in the number of speakers, I also propose that the high-level meeting opens at 9 a.m. and that statements be limited to five minutes each.

I strongly encourage the regional groups to submit their respective list of speakers to the General Assembly Affairs Branch, DGACM, at their very earliest convenience but not later than 31 August. The Secretariat will then establish the final provisional list of speakers in accordance with established practice and the criteria set out in resolution 66/102.

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

Nasser Abdulaziz Al-Nasser