



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York, 20 February 2013

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to General Assembly Decision 67/555 on the establishment of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, adopted on 22 January 2013.

After initial discussions were had with the regional groups, it appears that there is a common understanding on the following: the first meeting of the Open Working Group should be convened as soon as possible; this meeting should be well prepared in order to enable productive discussion; and the meeting should be convened in an open format.

I therefore intend to convene the first meeting of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals preferably in mid-March 2013.

In this regard, consultations are seemingly required, including about a draft agenda for the meeting, the composition of the Group's leadership, and its program and modalities of work.

In line with views expressed in the aforementioned discussions, I have decided to invite the Permanent Representative of Hungary, H.E. Ambassador Csaba Körösi and the Permanent Representative of Kenya, H.E. Ambassador Macharia Kamau, to facilitate consultations pertaining to the preparations of the first meeting of the Open Working Group. I am grateful to them for accepting this responsibility.

In order to maintain continuity with negotiations leading to the establishment of the Open Working Group, I have also decided to invite the Permanent Representative of Brazil, H.E. Ambassador Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti, who so ably facilitated that process, to engage now with the two co-facilitators for the sake of preparations of the meeting. I am grateful to her for accepting this invitation. My Special Senior Advisor, Ambassador Dejan Šahović, will follow the forthcoming consultations on my behalf.

I count on Member States' best efforts to engage constructively in preparations for the meeting in order to move forward, as soon as possible, to discussions on substantive aspects of future sustainable development goals.

On my part, I will continue to attach outmost priority to the Open Working Group.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vuk Jeremic', written over a horizontal line.

Vuk Jeremic

To: All Permanent Representatives of the members of the
Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals
Cc: To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York