

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK


OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

17 June 2013

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from H.E. Mr. Mootaz Ahmadein Khalil, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, circulating the draft resolution on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly to be adopted as part of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

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


Dejan Sahovic
Officer-in-Charge
Senior Special Advisor

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



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
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CHAN/260/13/MD

June 17th, 2013

Excellency, *& Dear Colleague,*

In my capacity as Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly during the 67th session, I wish to thank all delegations for their active participation in the previous five meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group that witnessed fruitful discussions and a very useful exchange of ideas regarding each of the four clusters of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

Accordingly, I wish to invite your delegation to the next stage of our work that will focus on the consultations on the draft resolution on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly to be adopted as part of the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group. In this regard, and after consulting with the President of the General Assembly, I have the pleasure to enclose herewith the related draft resolution based on the discussions in the previous meetings of the Ad Hoc Working for your consideration.

Delegations are invited to send their comments and/or proposals on the said draft resolution no later than the end of business day of Thursday, June 20th, 2013, to the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations to the following E-mail address: magdielderini@hotmail.com. The first meeting of the informal consultations on the draft resolution will be held on Monday, June 24th, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room D (CB).

I look forward to your delegation's active participation in the informal consultations on the draft resolution related to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration *& esteem.*

Permanent Representative

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Ambassador/ Mootaz Ahmadein Khalil

Resolution
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly
67th Session

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming resolution 66/294 of 17 September 2012 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recognizing the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly, (P.P. 7 of GA res. 66/294)

Reiterating that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations, (P.P. 11 of GA res. 66/294)

Welcoming the efforts by the President of the General Assembly in advancing the revitalization agenda during the sixty-seventh session,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly, and the updated inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to it;

2. *Decides* to establish, at its sixty-eighth session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

3. Also *decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-seventh session of the Assembly, and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the Assembly's resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session;

Role and Authority of the General Assembly

4. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly on global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the United Nations Charter; (P.P. 4 of GA res. 66/294)

5. *Also Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of

procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter; (O.P. 4 of GA res. 66/294)

6. *Recognizes* that non-implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, may diminish the role and authority of the Assembly, and *underlines* the important role and responsibility of Member States in their implementation; (Based on P.P. 2 and O.P. 13 of GA res. 66/294)

7. *Welcomes* the initiative by the President of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly to select “Bringing about adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations by peaceful means” as the overarching theme for the session with a view to strengthen the role of the Assembly in preventing conflicts and resolving existing ones;

8. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and *invites* the President of the General Assembly to continue this practice and to consult with Member States on the possibilities for achieving, where appropriate, results-oriented outcomes in such debates, and to recommend to the Assembly, at the beginning of each session, a preliminary program of such debates; (Based on O.P. 7 of GA res. 66/294)

9. *Encourages* continued interaction, where appropriate, between the General Assembly and international or regional organizations and forums, as well as with national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and with civil society while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the General Assembly and in conformity with the relevant rules of procedure; (Based on O.P. 8 of GA res. 66/294 and O.P. 12 & 13 of GA res. 60/286)

10. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations are mutually reinforcing and complementary in accordance with the United Nations Charter, and in this regard *stresses* the importance of ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in Particular the Secretary General;

11. *Welcomes* the improvement in the quality of the annual reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly, and *encourages* the Council to make further improvement as necessary (First Part of O.P. 11 of GA res.66/294);

12. *Urges* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of its work.

Working methods

13. *Welcomes* the briefings by the Chairs of Main Committees of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group about the working methods of their respective Committees during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, and in this regard *encourages* the Main Committees to:

(a) Synchronize the Committees’ work with each other and with the work of other principal organs and with other corresponding bodies, as appropriate, with a view to ensure complementarities and avoid overlapping or duplication in their respective work while respecting the division of responsibilities.

(b) Elect the Bureau of each Committee at least three months in advance of the session in order to have a smooth start of the Committees' work and to allow for best coordination and exchange of lessons learned from one session to another.

(c) Benefit from the Main Committees' quick-places to facilitate the smooth and timely conclusion of their respective work.

(d) Share experiences and best practices concerning their respective working methods;

14. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and this regard *invites* the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eight session, as appropriate;

15. *Reiterates* its requests that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the sixty-eighth session, in consultation with Member States, continue consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant discussions of the Ad Hoc Working Group during the sixty-seventh session; (Based on O.P. 18 of GA res. 66/294)

16. *Decides* to establish a website, within existing resources, devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, following the model of the websites of Main Committees;

17. *Encourages* exploring the possibility of electing the non-permanent members of the Security Council and members of the ECOSOC earlier than October of each year, as currently the practice, in order to foster better advance planning and preparation before assuming such responsibilities.

18. *Notes with appreciation* that the high-level meetings held at the United Nations give more visibility to very important topics, while mindful of the need to facilitate full participation of all Member States and to preserve the integrity of the general debate in September, and reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of high-level meetings with a view to optimizing the number and distribution of such events (O.P. 20 of GA res. 66/294), including through exploring the possibility of scheduling future high-level meetings during the spring, taking into account the calendar of conferences, and without prejudice to the current practices of convening high-level meetings in September at the beginning of each session of the General Assembly, and convening high-level thematic debates throughout the session, as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations bodies and the Secretariat to continue to consult on the consolidation of documentation in order to avoid duplication of work, to exercise the fullest possible discipline in striving for concise resolutions, reports and other documentation, inter alia, by referring to previous documents rather than repeating actual content, and to focus on key themes, and calls upon them to observe existing submission deadlines so as to allow for the timely processing of documents to be examined by intergovernmental bodies (O.P. 21 of GA res. 66/294);

20. *Recalls* paragraphs 10 and 11 of resolution 48/264, and *invites* Member States to address the arrangements concerning the rotation of election of the six Chairs of the Main Committees at an early stage of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

Selection and appointment of the Secretary General and other Executive Heads

21. *Stresses* that the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, reflects the complementary relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council;

22. *Recalls* Article 97 of the United Nations Charter, and *calls* for the full implementation of all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11 (I) of 24 January 1946, 51/241, 60/286, in particular paragraphs 17 to 22 of the annex thereto, and 64/301 in the selection and appointment of the upcoming Secretary-Generals;

Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

23. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years;

24. *Recalls* provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the Assembly in previous resolutions, *expresses* continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and in this context *looks forward* to the submission by the Secretary-General of his proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office of the President of the General Assembly pursuant to paragraph 32 of resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011; (Based on O.P. 31 and 32 of GA res. 66/294).

25. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the role of the General Committee to support the work of the Presidents of the General Assembly.

26. *Encourages* the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travels; (Based on O.P. 29 of GA res. 66/294).

27. *Underlines* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard encourages Member States to contribute to the Fund (Based on O.P. 33 of GA res. 66/294).

28. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of its resolution 67/124 (B) of 18 December 2012, in which it requested the Department of Public Information to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly. (Based on O.P. 22 of GA res. 66/294).

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General, at the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions; (Based on O.P. 34 of GA res. 66/294)

30. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure, within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated staff within the Secretariat with responsibility for coordinating the transition between Presidents, managing interactions between the President of the Assembly and the Secretary-General and the preserving of institutional memory. (First Part of O.P. 36 of GA res. 66/294)

31. *Requests* the outgoing Presidents of the Assembly to brief their successors on the lessons learned and best practices (Second Part of O.P. 36 of GA res. 66/294), and also *requests* the Secretariat, in coordination with the Office of the Presidents of the General Assembly, to explore the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of Presidents of General Assembly that could serve to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office.
