



United Nations  
Office of the President of the General Assembly

9 July 2013

Excellency,

I refer to the letter by the President of the General Assembly dated 13 May 2013, representing an invitation to participate in the High-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament to take place on 26 September 2013.

The Office of the President convened a briefing for interested Member and Observer States as well as Civil Society on 2 July 2013 on the preparations for the High-level meeting. You will find annexed to this letter detailed information about the ongoing preparations for the meeting, which were shared during the above mentioned briefing.

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

Chef de Cabinet



Zdravko Ponos

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

## **Annex**

### **High-level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament**

#### **Organizational Information**

##### **General**

In Resolution A/Res/67/39 entitled “High-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament”, the General Assembly decided to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, that will be held as a one day plenary meeting on 26 September 2013, to contribute to achieving the goal of nuclear disarmament.

##### **Structure of the High-level meeting**

The one-day high-level meeting will include an opening session, two consecutive high-level plenary sessions, as well as a closing session.

##### **Venue and Time of the High-level meeting**

The opening session of the high-level meeting will take place in the temporary General Assembly Hall in the North Lawn Building on 26 September from 9am to 10am. The two consecutive sessions as well as the closing session will take place in the Trusteeship Council Chamber in the Conference Building. The morning session will take place from 10am to 1pm, and the afternoon session from 3pm to 5.45pm. A short closing session will take place from 5.45pm to 6pm.

##### **Chair**

The Opening and the Closing session will be chaired by the President of the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly. The two consecutive substantive sessions will be chaired by General Assembly Vice-Presidents.

##### **List of Speakers**

The list of speakers for the two consecutive sessions will be open by the end of July/early August (together with all other HLM for September) and Member States can inscribe on a first come first serve basis, following relevant protocol regulations. The opening of the list of speakers will be announced in the journal.

The opening session will hear statements from the President of the General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General, the Non-Aligned Movement as well as Heads of State or Heads of Government invited by the President of the General Assembly. There will be no open list of speakers for the opening session.

##### **Time limits for statements**

Due to the expected large number of Member States who would like to speak, and the meeting limited to a one-day meeting, time limit for individual statements will be 3min, and 5min for group statements. To have as many Member States participate actively in the event, the President encourages delegations to deliver a shortened version of their statements and distribute the full statements in the room. In addition, all Statements will be published on a special website set up for the High-level meeting by the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

**Civil Society Participation**

The President initiated the process to draw up a list of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that will participate in the high-level meeting. This list will be shared with Member States as soon as available. There will be a ten minutes time slot at the end of the afternoon session to allow two representatives of civil society organisations to speak.

**Outcome**

The President will prepare a summary as the outcome of the high-level meeting, which will be issued as a document of the General Assembly. For this, the President will receive support from the substantive branches of the Secretariat.