



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York, July 15, 2013

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to resolution A/RES/66/124 on the “High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities”.

In accordance with the above-mentioned resolution, the General Assembly will convene a High-level Meeting, at the level of Heads of State and Government, on 23 September 2013, with the overarching theme “The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond”.

Pursuant to this resolution, the General Assembly has requested me in consultation with Member States, to identify the eminent person actively engaged in disability issues and a representative of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to speak at the opening plenary meeting.

In addition, the afore-mentioned resolution has mandated me to identify a representative of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council active in disability issues to speak at the first round table.

I am pleased to inform you that I intend to invite **Mr. Steve Wonder, UN Messenger of Peace** to speak at the opening plenary meeting, in his capacity as an eminent person actively engaged in disability issues. I also intend to invite **Mr. Yannis Vardakastanis, Chair of the European Disability Forum** to deliver a statement at the same opening plenary meeting in his capacity as a representative of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

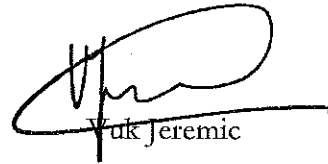
Furthermore, I intend to invite **Ms. Robinah Alambuya, President of Pan African Network of People with Psychosocial Disabilities** to speak at the first round table, representing a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and active in disability issues.

To all Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

As decided by resolution A/RES/66/124, **Ms. María Soledad Cisternas Reyes, the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** will also deliver a statement during the opening plenary meeting.

In reference to operative paragraph 3 (a) pertaining to the chairing of the two interactive round tables, I am in consultations with Member States and will communicate shortly the outcome of these consultations.

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



Yuk Jeremic