



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3 October 2016

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memo from my recent meeting with the President of the Security Council for the month of October 2016, H.E. Mr. Vitaly Churkin, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Thomson'.

Peter Thomson

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

PGA Office Memo: Meeting between the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council for the month of October 2016, the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation, on 28 September 2016.

The President of the General Assembly met on 28 September 2016 with the President of the Security Council for the month of October 2016, H.E. Vitaly Churkin, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations.

The Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation briefed the President of the General Assembly on the outline of the Security Council's provisional Programme of Work for October. The Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation highlighted that it will be a busy month with many meetings, two open debates and two debates.

The Security Council would hold its traditional debate on Haiti and adopt the extension of the MINUSTAH mandate, as well as hold the quarterly open debate on the Middle East in October. Furthermore, the Security Council would hold an open debate on women, peace and security. Ambassador Churkin highlighted the intention to hold a debate on UN cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations in particular the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Commonwealth of Independent States. The first part of the month would deal with several African issues, such as Darfur (UNAMID), Mali (MINUSMA), Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and South Sudan (UNMISS). The Security Council would also hold meetings on Syria with consultations with the Special Envoy of the Secretary General (SESG) Staffan de Mistura on 17 October, a humanitarian briefing and consultations on the 26 October and consultations with High Representative Won-soo Kim and the Head of the Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM) Virginia Gamba on 27 October. The Council would also hold consultations on Western Sahara (MINURSO) 18 October, be briefed on Yemen by the SESG Ould Sheikh Ahmed on 20 October and hold consultations on Lebanon 27 October. A meeting with the President of the International Court of Justice was also planned. Otherwise, the renewal of Member States' authorization to inspect/seize vessels used for migrant smuggling or human trafficking on the high seas off the coast of Libya was mentioned, as well as potentially a resolution on countering terrorism and extremist ideology. An Arria-formula meeting on Israeli settlements, planned for the 14 October by five Security Council Member States, was also informed about.

Regarding the selection- and appointment process of the next Secretary-General, the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation informed the President of the General Assembly that the sixth "straw poll", and the first with colour coded ballots, would be held on 5 October. Also that the month of October could be the month a formal vote on the recommendation to the General Assembly would take place.

The President of the General Assembly thanked Ambassador Churkin for his briefing and especially took note of the briefings scheduled on Syria and Yemen in the Security Council, as matters of great concern – especially with regard to the situation for civilians. Referring to the selection and appointment process of the next Secretary-General of the United Nations, he recalled the importance of close coordination with the monthly presidency of the Security Council and especially for the month of October. He also reiterated his commitment to create a

level playing field for all candidates for the position of Secretary-General, and that he would offer an informal dialogue with any additional candidate that may emerge throughout the process. He also referred to his letter of 23 September regarding the appointment process and his intention to make every effort to contribute to a smooth and timely appointment of the next Secretary-General. He also reiterated that he, and through him the membership of the General Assembly, continued to look forward to being updated on the process of consideration in the Security Council, and offered to continue close contact with the President of the Security Council throughout the month of October.