

United Nations Nations Unies

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Distinguished delegates,

As you are aware, the cancellation of meetings this week, which was required for purposes of taking all necessary health and safety precautions, has resulted in the loss of three meetings of the Sixth Committee. The Committee is now significantly behind schedule.

The Bureau met this afternoon to discuss the situation and its impact on the programme for the remainder of the session, and has agreed on the following recommendations:

1. All coordinators of draft resolutions are encouraged to schedule informal consultations as soon as possible, including in advance of the debate on their respective agenda items. Given the postponement of the debate on the remaining items, as a consequence of the cancellation of meetings this week, there will be very little time to hold informal consultations after the respective debates. The recommendation is being made given the exceptional circumstances, and is without prejudice to the established practice, nor should it serve as a precedent for future sessions of the Sixth Committee.
2. Together with the Secretariat, the Bureau has prepared a revised programme (dated 28 October 2020), which is attached to this letter, for the remainder of the session. The programme takes into account the anticipated length of the debate on remaining agenda items based on the numbers of currently inscribed speakers. The Secretariat has secured two additional in-person meetings (on 4 November 2020, at 3pm, and 13 November 2020, at 10 am). Together with the meeting initially held in reserve on 19 November, the two new meetings are being added to compensate for the three meetings lost this week. Several factors were taken into account when deciding on the sequencing of the agenda items to be debated, including the respective levels of inscription and the fact that the reports of the ILC, UNCITRAL and the Working Group on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism will be introduced by Chairs located in time zones to the east of New York.

On behalf of the Bureau, I thank you for understanding, flexibility and cooperation in making the final weeks of the Sixth Committee a success.

Yours sincerely,



Milenko Esteban Skoknic Tapia
Chair of the Sixth Committee
at the seventy-fifth session
of the General Assembly

Delegates of the Sixth Committee