



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9 November 2007

Excellency,

Further to my letter of 1 October 2007 and in keeping with the mandate given to me by General Assembly resolution 61/272 of 29 June 2007, I would like to update you on preparations for the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the Special Session on Children, scheduled to take place on 11 and 12 December 2007.

As you will recall, the General Assembly agreed that the commemorative meeting will comprise plenary meetings and two thematic round tables. A draft programme of the commemorative meeting is attached herewith for your information.

The list of speakers for the plenary meetings will be open as of today, Friday, 9 November 2007. Delegations wishing to inscribe should contact the General Assembly Affairs Branch at 1-212-963-5063. To enable the maximum participation, statements in plenary should not exceed seven minutes.

Regarding the round tables, I would like to propose that they address the following themes from the final document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A World Fit for Children" (resolution S-27/2, annex):

- 1) Promoting healthy lives and combating HIV/AIDS.
- 2) Providing universal quality education as key to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and as the first line of protection against abuse, exploitation and violence against children.

Delegations are invited to focus their discussion, during the round tables, on one or more of the cross-cutting themes from the document "A World Fit for Children": ensuring child participation, mobilizing resources, gender equality, and sustainability.

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

In terms of the format of the round tables, they will each have two Co-chairs selected from among delegates represented at the highest possible level with due regard given to gender balance and equitable geographical representation. I therefore invite Member States to indicate their interest to me by 19 November 2007.

Also, I would encourage a flexible and dynamic flow of discussion among all participants in the round tables, including non-governmental organizations and children. Hence there will be no established list of speakers and interventions will be limited to a maximum of three minutes.

All Members States are invited to participate in either round table. Other participants will include non-governmental organizations and children agreed upon by the General Assembly on 18 October 2007 (decision 62/508). I should point out that the girl and the boy expected to address the closing plenary meeting will be chosen in the Children's Forum.

I wish to thank Ambassador Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti, Permanent Representative of Brazil, who has agreed to be the facilitator for the consultations on the outcome document to be adopted by the commemorative high-level plenary meeting.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my invitation to Member States to participate at the highest possible level in the commemorative high-level plenary meeting and to include children and young people in their official delegations.

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

Srgjan Kerim



**Commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the
follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children
(11-12 December 2007, New York)**

Draft Programme

11 December 2007 (Tuesday)

10.00 am - 1.00 pm
(General Assembly Hall)

Opening of the Commemorative high-level plenary meeting
Remarks by the President of General Assembly, President of ECOSOC,
Secretary General (via video message) and Executive Director UNICEF

Other statements¹

3.00 pm - 6.00 pm
(Trusteeship Council
Chamber)

Round Table 1: Promoting healthy lives and combating HIV/AIDS

12 December 2007 (Wednesday)

10.00 am – 1.00 pm
(Trusteeship Council
Chamber)

**Round Table 2: Providing universal quality education as key to
achieving the Millennium Development Goals and as the first line of
protection against abuse, exploitation and violence against children**

3.00 pm – 6.00 pm
(General Assembly Hall)

Closing of the Commemorative high-level plenary meeting
Statements by one boy and one girl (selected from Children's Forum) and a
NGO representative.

Presentation by the Chairpersons of summaries on the discussions of the
two interactive roundtables

Closing statement by the President of the General Assembly

¹ Statements in plenary should not exceed 7 minutes to allow maximum participation.