



**Permanent Mission of Australia
to the United Nations**
New York



MISIÓN PERMANENTE DE EL SALVADOR
ANTE LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

10 January 2023

Excellency,

We wish to refer to the letter from the President of the General Assembly, dated 18 October 2022, reappointing us as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (AHWG) for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly.

It is an honour to be reappointed as Co-Chairs and build upon our work during the seventy-sixth session, in partnership with Member States, to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly, in line with the AHWG's mandate.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all delegations, the Office of the President of the General Assembly, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and other departments of the UN Secretariat for their active engagement throughout the seventy-sixth session.

A number of practical and action-oriented proposals were discussed at the last session. As Co-Chairs, we provided a summary of the actions and proposals for further consideration by the AHWG in our letter dated 25 August 2022. It is our hope that this letter, which was formulated on the basis of contributions from Member States, as well as OPGA and Secretariat briefers, will be a useful guide for the AHWG in its deliberations this year.

Programme of work for the seventy-seventh session

Delegations will recall that in resolution 75/325 of 10 September 2021, the Assembly decided to biennialize the resolution on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly and that for the seventy-seventh session, the Working Group should focus primarily on the remaining two pillars of the revitalization mandate: strengthening the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly; and selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads.

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Furthermore, it was agreed as part of the biennialization process that the follow-up to resolution 75/325 would also be negotiated and adopted at this session.

The Co-Chairs would therefore like to draw your attention to the following proposed programme of work for the seventy-seventh session. Where possible, the following dates have been de-conflicted with existing and planned meetings of the General Assembly, as well as other intergovernmental processes scheduled in 2023.

- 1. Thursday, 26 January 2023: Informal workshop on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly for delegates, in partnership with UNITAR and the OPGA (invite and concept note to follow)**
- 2. Thursday, 9 February 2023: Thematic debate on the ‘Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads’**
- 3. Wednesday, 22 February 2023: Virtual informal dialogue on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly with former Presidents of the General Assembly**
- 4. Wednesday, 15 March 2023: Thematic debate on ‘Strengthening the accountability, transparency and institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly (OPGA)’**
- 5. Wednesday, 7 June 2023: Interactive dialogue between the UN Secretariat and Member States**

The Co-Chairs encourage delegates following the AHWG to attend the informal workshop scheduled for 26 January. The main objective of the workshop is to provide delegates with essential knowledge of the background, mandate, main areas, and outcomes of the AHWG, to enable them to actively participate in current and future sessions and to further strengthen the implementation of the resolutions recommended by the AHWG.

Resolution and negotiation

Building on progress made in the seventy-sixth session and the meetings scheduled above, the Co-Chairs aim to circulate the zero-draft resolution in late March with a view to inviting initial feedback and seeking Member State inputs throughout April.

It is our intention to commence negotiations in May and finalize the resolution in June via silence procedure and once a consensus is reached.

In addition to the programme of work, the Co-Chairs are available for informal consultations and discussions with Member States, including with regional or thematic groupings and key stakeholders throughout the session.

Moreover, the Co-Chairs intend to organize an informal dialogue with former Presidents of the General Assembly to discuss the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, particularly, the role of the OPGA.

As Co-Chairs, we strongly believe in the central role of the AHWG in preserving and enhancing the General Assembly's status as the chief deliberative, policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations. With this in mind, we stand ready to work collaboratively and inclusively with all Member States throughout this session of the General Assembly.

We look forward to the continued active and constructive participation of all delegations.

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



H.E. Mr Mitch Fifield
Ambassador and Permanent
Representative of Australia
to the United Nations



H.E. Ms Egriselda López
Ambassador and Permanent
Representative of El Salvador
to the United Nations