

Excellency,

In Resolution A/Res/67/39 entitled "High-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament", the General Assembly decided to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, that will be held as a one-day plenary meeting on 26 September 2013, to contribute to achieving the goal of nuclear disarmament. This is the first high-level meeting of the General Assembly on this important subject. As President of the General Assembly, I accord highest priority to this meeting and to the full implementation of the mandate contained in resolution 67/39.

In deciding to hold a high-level meeting, Member States emphasized the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons. Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war, the General Assembly recalled the resolve by Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers.

The one-day high-level meeting will include an opening session, two consecutive high-level sessions, as well as a closing session. To benefit from the wide range of knowledge and expertise throughout the Membership, I invite Member States to participate in the meeting at the highest possible level. As mandated by resolution A/Res/67/39, I will also draw up a list of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that will participate in the high-level meeting.

I look forward to closely consult with the entire Membership to ensure a successful preparation of the High-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament.

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

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