



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 October 2016

Excellency,

I wish to refer to decision 70/559 of 27 July 2016, by which the General Assembly reaffirmed its central role concerning the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council.

Member States will recall in this regard that the General Assembly decided to “immediately continue intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform in informal plenary of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, as mandated by Assembly decisions 62/557 of 15 September 2008, 63/565 B of 14 September 2009, 64/568 of 13 September 2010, 65/554 of 12 September 2011, 66/566 of 13 September 2012, 67/561 of 29 August 2013, 68/557 of 8 September 2014 and 69/560 of 14 September 2015, building on the informal meetings held during its seventieth session, as well as the positions of and proposals made by Member States, reflected in the text and its annex circulated on 31 July 2015, and using the elements of convergence circulated on 12 July 2016 to help to inform its future work”.

I now have the honour to inform you that I have appointed H.E. Mr. Ion Jinga, Permanent Representative of Romania, and H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Permanent Representative of Tunisia, as Co-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Negotiations.

I would like to thank Ambassadors Jinga and Khiari for having accepted this very important responsibility and I have no doubt that you will extend your full support and cooperation to them. I am confident that the forthcoming negotiations will build on progress made during the 69th and 70th sessions, and I encourage Member States to continue moving this process forward pursuant to the aforementioned decision 70/559. In line with this decision, I will continue the active engagement of the President of the General Assembly in this process in support of the co-chairs.

I also wish to inform you that I will convene the plenary debate on agenda item 122 entitled “Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council” on 7 November 2016, and I invite all Member States to actively participate.

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

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

Peter Thomson

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