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**COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**COUNSEIL DES PRESIDENTS
DE L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE
DES NATIONS UNIES**

20th November, 2012

Excellency,

On behalf of the Council of Presidents of the United Nations General Assembly (CPGA), I wish to express our deep appreciation for the time you spent with us during the 2012 meeting of the Council of Presidents of the United Nations General Assembly. The Council is delighted with your recent appointment as Deputy Secretary-General, and is prepared to lend the considerable diplomatic experience of its members to assist your efforts, as appropriate.

We appreciate very much your articulation of support for the formalisation of the relationship between the Council and the United Nations – a topic with which you are aware from previous meetings of the Council prior to your appointment. In this connection, the Council has reaffirmed its earlier decision to proceed with the observer status initiative, during the 67th Session of the General Assembly, and will keep you advised of the developments. As I will be returning to United Nations Headquarters, New York in mid-January 2013, this may be an appropriate time for a short discussion on this issue.

I am attaching for your information a copy of the Final Communiqué of the 2012 Meeting of the Council of Presidents of the United Nations General Assembly (CPGA).

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

H. E. Hon. Dr. Julian R. Hunte
Chairman of the Council of the
President of the General Assembly of
the United Nations.

H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations



SCH/09/002



**COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**COUNSEIL DES PRESIDENTS
DE L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE
DES NATIONS UNIES**

November 15, 2012

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit the final Communiqué of the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly adopted following the annual meeting of the Council which convened on 7 – 8 November 2012.

I will be in communication in the coming months on the follow-up to specific decisions taken at the session, in particular developments regarding the formalisation of ties with the United Nations system.

Excellency, please accept the continued assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Julian R. Hunte', is positioned above the printed name.

H. E. Hon. Dr. Julian R. Hunte
Chairman of the Council of the
President of the General Assembly of
the United Nations.

Members of the Council of Presidents



**COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**CONSEIL DES PRESIDENTS DE
L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE
DES NATIONS UNIES**

**Fourteenth Meeting
7 - 8 November 2012**

**CPGAUN/Plenary/2012/3
8 November 2012**

Communiqué of the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly

The Council of Presidents of the United Nations General Assembly,

Reiterating its longstanding recognition of the United Nations as the principal multilateral organization in the promotion of peace, security, and sustainable development,

Recognizing once again the paramount role of the General Assembly, as articulated in the United Nations Charter, as the most universal of international bodies in the promotion of multilateral cooperation,

Recalling the creation of the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly on 21st November 1997 as a body to organize the collective diplomatic experience and institutional memory of its members, and to make that expertise available to the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary General and other relevant U.N. bodies,

Affirming the role of the Council of Presidents to take such actions as may be decided to help promote the ideals of the United Nations in carrying out its sacred mandate,

Expressing the profound sense of loss on the passing of the President of H.E. Mr. Harri Holkeri, President of the 55th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, whose diplomatic acumen and negotiating skills were a significant contribution to the cause of world peace and development,

Further expressing deep sadness on the passing of the H.E. Mr. Jorge E. Illueca of Panama, President of the Thirty-Eighth session of the General Assembly whose stewardship at the helm of the Assembly was critical during a critical period in the history of the General Assembly,

Also expressing profound sadness of the passing of H.E. Mr. Lazar Mojsov, President of the Thirty-Second session of the General Assembly, for his dynamic contribution and

commitment to the ideals of the United Nations and the pre-eminent role of the General Assembly;

Recalling the introduction of a draft resolution at the 64th session of the General Assembly sponsored by the Permanent Representatives of St. Lucia, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine intended to intensify and regularize the role of the Council in United Nations deliberations through an observer status in the General Assembly, and the subsequent strategic withdrawal of the draft resolution, for procedural reasons, following deliberations in the Sixth Committee,

Taking note of the strong support expressed by the United Nations Secretary-General during the 2012 meeting with the Council to formalize the role of the Council of Presidents to maximize its effectiveness as an advisory body within the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the decision of the Council of Presidents taken at its Thirteenth Meeting in 2010 that the most appropriate way for bringing to bear the collective knowledge and experience of the Presidents of the General Assembly is through the attainment of observer status, in particular in the recognised broader category of "Other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly,"

1. *Extends* its congratulations to H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremić Vuk Jeremic on his election as president of the 67th Session of the General Assembly, and pledges the support of the Council of Presidents as he undertakes the formidable tasks of managing the Assembly during his presidency;
2. *Welcomes* the appointment of H.E. Jan Eliasson, President of the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, as Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and pledges the support and assistance of the Council of Presidents as he undertakes his duties with particular focus on myriad political and development issues including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
3. *Reiterates* its concern that comprehensive reform of the Security Council has not yet been achieved, and *calls for* the intensification of effort to attain a composition of a Security Council more reflective of the composition of the United Nations membership in the 21st century;
4. Also expresses concern with the slow pace of the process of revitalization of the United Nations General Assembly which is an integral part of the necessary reform of United Nations institutions;
5. *Calls for* the acceleration of implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the remaining years before their target date of 2015 to give effect to the reduction of poverty and related conditions, and *reiterates its call*

for the international community to deliver its aid commitments and to mobilize resources to meet the MDGs and other international development objectives;

6. *Expresses its regret* for the recent loss of life and devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy in Cuba, the Bahamas, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and the United States particularly the New York metropolitan area; for the recent impact of Typhoons Jelawat and Sanba on Japan; for the recent devastation caused by the floods in Thailand. and for the effects of other recent weather disasters on the people of the planet;
7. *Takes note* of the commemoration by the United Nations of the 25th anniversary of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer celebrated in September 2012, and further takes note of the commemoration of the International Day for Disaster Reduction in October 2012;
8. *Reiterates* its call for the redoubling of efforts to conclude a mutually acceptable climate change treaty taking into account the need for financing to assist the poorest and the most vulnerable states whose survival is threatened if they would not be able to adapt to the impacts of climate change, and in this connection,
9. Also *reiterates* its deep concern for the most vulnerable small island developing states, as well as the least developed countries, who continue to indicate that a 2.0 degree Celsius increase in global temperature would have catastrophic consequences for the well-being of their people, and in some cases, for the very existence of states which are low-lying.
10. *Takes note* of the convening of the Rio + 20 Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil in June 2012 which adopted the outcome document entitled 'The Future We Want,' and *affirms* that the nexus of the MDGs, climate change and financing for development is a concept which can be utilized to achieve sustainable development;
11. *Recognizes* the importance of the negotiations conducted at the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in July 2012, and *encourages* the parties to continue their efforts in order to arrive at a successful arms treaty;
12. *Further recognizes* the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the 67th Session of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, and *calls for* the commitment of all member states in its implementation;
13. *Reiterates* its desire for revitalization and reinvigoration of the peace process in the Middle East where the United Nations should play a critical role, and expresses its concern for the unresolved nature of the Middle East situation for

more than 60 years, despite numerous General Assembly and Security Council resolutions;

14. *Further reiterates* the view that the peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict would facilitate the resolution of disputes in other parts of the region, thus contributing to peace and stability in the entire Middle East; and that the two state solution is the best possible resolution of the conflict whereby a democratic, independent and viable Palestine would live in peace side by side next with Israel recognized and secured in its 1967 borders, mutually agreed exchange of small territories notwithstanding. The Council perceives the urgent need for a breakthrough in the current stalemate in peace negotiations, and calls for appropriate steps to be undertaken, for example, that Israel should declare its commitment to cease further building of settlements in Palestinian territories which is contrary to U.N. Security Council Resolution 446 (1979) which declares the settlements illegal
15. *Reaffirms* its support for the continued involvement of the General Assembly on the question of the Middle East in all of its aspects as expressed most recently in its Resolution 66/225 of 3rd August 2012 on *Permanent Sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources*;
16. *Takes note* of the approval of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2011 to grant Palestine full membership, and the initiative by the Palestinian President to obtain non-member status in the United Nations General Assembly;
17. *Alarmed* by the continued violence and loss of life, as well as human rights violations being perpetrated by all sides of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic;
18. *Takes note* of General Assembly resolution 66/253 of 3rd August 2012 on *The Situation in the Syrian Arab Republic* and the efforts of the former joint United Nations/Arab League Special Representative for Syria Kofi Annan and the current efforts of Special Representative Lakhdar Brahimi to resolve the crisis;
19. The Council appeals to the Security Council to face its primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security, and should therefore act decisively and without delay to propose a political solution to the ongoing military conflict in Syria. The Council also appeals to the Syrian opposition to facilitate such a solution by agreeing to appoint its representatives that could act as trustworthy interlocutors.

20. *Also takes note* of Security Council Resolution 2071 (2012) which expressed its grave concern about the consequences of instability in the north of Mali on the region and beyond, which expressed, inter alia, its serious concern for the insecurity and rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Sahel region, and which requested the initiation of military planning in conjunction with ECOWAS, the African Union and other interested bilateral partners;
21. *Affirms* the important role that could be played by neighboring states, including Algeria, in contributing to a resolution of the crisis; and *takes note* of the appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General of a Special Envoy for the Sahel to coordinate the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy, and to engage actively in defining the parameters of a comprehensive solution to the Malian crisis;
22. *Expresses deep concern* for the slow pace of reconstruction in Haiti since the devastating earthquake of 2010, the subsequent cholera outbreak, and the present human tragedy caused by Hurricane Sandy in 2012 exacerbating the already desperate crisis;
23. *Takes note* of the most recent Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), and the outline of a reconfiguration and consolidation plan for the mission that would lead to a reconfigured and condition-based consolidation of MINUSTAH.
24. *Calls on* the international community to accelerate the disbursement of its financial and other pledges made for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Haiti, and to redouble its efforts to assist Haiti in moving toward a path of sustainable human development; and expresses its deep concern that despite the pledges, the finances are not reaching the people for whom the assistance is intended;
25. *Reiterates its concern* that the ongoing tensions on the Korean Peninsula continue to be an impediment to peace, security and prosperity for the people of the two Koreas, the Asia/Pacific region, and globally requiring the energy and diplomatic skills of all parties to come to a complete and lasting solution, and *takes note* of General Assembly resolution 66/174 on the Situation of human rights in the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea;
26. *Conscious* that the regional dimension of the issue on the Korean Peninsula has been raised in 2012 by the Unification Minister of the Republic of Korea who has called for the cooperation of China in unification efforts from the perspective that it would benefit the entire East Asia region;
27. *Supports* all genuine efforts to reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula, and endorses future efforts to arrive at a lasting solution which would benefit the people of the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

28. *Recognizes* the historic role of the General Assembly in the self-determination process of dependent territories, and that the successful decolonization of over eighty territories since World War II was in large measure as a result of the political, material and other support provided by the United Nations;
29. *Further recognises* that sixteen dependencies remain on the United Nations list on non self-governing territories under Chapter XI of the Charter, but only two have successfully decolonized since the 1990s resulting in the process being effectively stalled; and *concerned* that the countries which administer the majority of the remaining territories have withdrawn their cooperation from the Special Committee on Decolonization resulting in little progress being made in the implementation of the United Nation decolonization mandate contained in the Charter, General Assembly resolutions and human rights instruments;
30. *Endorses* the use of innovative means to give effect to the United Nations decolonization process including the use of special mechanisms such as an Independent Expert/Special Rapporteur, expert groups or other relevant modalities to examine the political situation in each of the remaining territories, and to advise the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of suitable means to implement the decolonization mandate in these territories.

H.E. Dr. Julian R. Hunte, Chairman

H.E. Mr. Amara Essy

H.E. Mr. Jan Kavan

H.E. Dr. Srgjan Kerim

Dr. Carlyle Corbin, Executive Secretary



Fw: VB: Letter transmitting communiqué

SGCentral to: Mamua Jeme

Sent by: Jill Annitto

19/11/2012 11:02 AM

----- Forwarded by Jill Annitto/NY/UNO on 19/11/2012 11:03 AM -----

Fw: VB: Letter transmitting communiqué

Jan Eliasson to: SGCentral

19/11/2012 10:59 AM

Sent by: Anastasiya Delenda

For logging please/thanks/tasa

----- Forwarded by Anastasiya Delenda/NY/UNO on 19/11/2012 10:59 AM -----

From: Jan Eliasson <jan.eliasson@yahoo.se>
To: Jan Eliasson <eliasson@un.org>
Date: 19/11/2012 10:25 AM
Subject: VB: Letter transmitting communiqué

----- Vidarebefordrat meddelande -----

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Kopia: hunterj14@aol.com; cgcorbinmon@gmail.com

Skickat: måndag, 19 november 2012 8:52

Ämne: Letter transmitting communiqué

Excellencies,

Please find attached being sent for and on behalf of H. E. Dr. the Hon. Julian R. Hunte – re letter transmitting the 2012 CPGA Communiqué.

Grateful if you would be so kind as to acknowledge receipt.

V/R

Celeste R. Charlemagne (Mls.)

PA to the President

West Indies Cricket Board Inc.

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"Whatever the mind of man can conceive and believe, he can achieve"



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