



Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly  
Statement delivered by  
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Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

United Nations  
New York  
10 May 2012

*Check against delivery*

Co-chairs,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Acceding country Croatia<sup>\*</sup>, the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>\*</sup>, Montenegro<sup>\*</sup>, Iceland<sup>\*</sup> and Serbia<sup>\*</sup>, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EFTA country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, and the Republic of Moldova align themselves with this statement.

Co-Chairs,

At the outset, I would like to express our gratitude for convening this meeting to discuss the topic "Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads".

The EU and its Member States continue to attach paramount importance to the full implementation of the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, Rule 141 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly and General Assembly resolutions 11 (I) of 1946, 51/241 and 60/286, relevant to the role of the General Assembly in appointing the Secretary-General upon the recommendation of the Security Council.

We continue to share the view, in line of the stipulations of resolution 60/286 and taking into account the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, that the process of selection of the Secretary-General needs to be transparent and inclusive of all Member States. We believe that the President of the General Assembly could play a constructive role in the process, in particular by informally consulting with Member States. This could be facilitated by the presentation of candidatures for the position of Secretary-General in a manner that allows sufficient time for interaction with Member States. Given the role of the Security Council in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, we recognize that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs for the process used with regard to other executive heads in the UN system.

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<sup>\*</sup> Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

<sup>\*</sup> Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.

We take note of the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit of 2009 on the "Selection and conditions of service of executive heads in the United Nations system organizations." We understand that the main objective of the evaluation undertaken by JIU was to assist in the establishment of harmonized selection criteria that would ensure the highest quality of leadership and management at the executive head level. In order to enhance transparency and credibility of the selection process and to make the process more inclusive of all Member States, the JIU recommended, *inter alia*, that the legislative bodies of the United Nations, specialized agencies and IAEA, which have not yet done so, conduct hearings/meetings with candidates running for the post of executive head. It is to be noted that the report states: the selection of the Secretary-General is unique in comparison with that of the other executive heads, given the role of the Security Council, and in particular its permanent members. Finally, we would like to stress that the principles of transparency, inclusivity and interaction with Member States enshrined in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly help ensure that the candidates for the post of Secretary-General possess and display commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, extensive leadership, as well as administrative and diplomatic experience.

Thank you.

