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Arrangements for the high-level meetings and the general debate of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly

United Nations Headquarters, 18 to 26 September 2023

Information note for delegations



Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	3
II. Arrivals	3
III. Seating, schedules, list of speakers, statements and other relevant information	4
IV. Event convened by the Secretary-General	13
V. Documentation and interpretation	14
VI. Credentials	15
VII. Protocol registration and access arrangements for Member States, observers, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations	16
VIII. Welcoming	18
IX. Joint briefing	19
X. Arrangements for meetings	19
XI. 2023 Treaty Event	20
XII. Security arrangements	20
XIII. Media access arrangements and services	23
XIV. Broadcast and conference support	27
XV. Access to representatives of non-governmental organizations	28
XVI. Medical services	29
XVII. Host country liaison	29
XVIII. Additional information and briefing sessions	29
XIX. Sustainability	30
XX. Accessibility: arrangements for persons with disabilities	31
XXI. Focal points for arrangements related to high-level meetings	32

I. Introduction

1. The general debate of the seventy-eighth session will be held from Tuesday, 19 September, to Saturday, 23 September, and on Tuesday, 26 September 2023.
2. The high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly will be held on Monday, 18 September and Tuesday, 19 September 2023, in accordance with resolutions [67/290](#) and [75/290](#) B. It will be preceded by the Sustainable Development Goals Action Weekend, on Saturday, 16 and Sunday, 17 September, convened by the Secretariat.
3. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development of the General Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023, in accordance with resolution [69/313](#).
4. The high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response will also be held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023, in accordance with resolution [77/275](#).
5. The Climate Ambition Summit, to be convened by the Secretary-General, will also be held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023.
6. The high-level meeting on universal health coverage will be held on Thursday, 21 September 2023, in accordance with resolution [75/315](#).
7. The preparatory ministerial meeting for the Summit of the Future will also be held on Thursday, 21 September 2023 in accordance with resolution [76/307](#) and decision [77/557](#).
8. The high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis will be held on Friday, 22 September 2023, in accordance with resolution [77/274](#).
9. The high-level plenary meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons will be held on Tuesday, 26 September 2023, in accordance with resolution [77/47](#).

II. Arrivals

10. Strict adherence to the following requirements will ensure the timely and secure arrival of all parties:
 - (a) All persons in motorcades must have valid United Nations photo identification in order to be permitted to pass through various security checks and enter the Headquarters complex;
 - (b) Heads of State or Government, members of their parties and any delegations wishing to come to the United Nations on foot from nearby locations are encouraged to do so – time will be saved, and possible delays avoided;
 - (c) With the exception of motorcades accompanied by police and/or Secret Service, any delegation arriving by car unescorted and without a parking e-tag will need a special vehicle permit. Permits can be applied for through the e-deleGATE portal. Car permits will be approved by security and available for pickup through the Garage Administration, room U-210 (telephone: 212 963 6212).

III. Seating, schedules, list of speakers, statements and other relevant information

11. In accordance with established practice, the Secretary-General had drawn lots for the purpose of choosing the Member State to occupy the first desk on the General Assembly floor from which the alphabetical seating order will begin. The name drawn was North Macedonia. The other countries will follow in the English alphabetical order, followed by observer States and the European Union. Seating arrangements may be further adjusted to account for requests from delegations to register accessible national seats (see sect. XX). The remaining seats with a name plate will be allocated, in the English alphabetical order, as follows: first, to observers of the Assembly¹ maintaining permanent offices at United Nations Headquarters in New York; and second, to specialized agencies and related organizations maintaining liaison offices at Headquarters. The remaining available seats with a name plate will be assigned, in the English alphabetical order, to observers that do not maintain permanent offices at Headquarters but that have informed the Protocol and Liaison Service of their attendance. Once all such seats are occupied, chairs (without a desk, a name plate and an adviser seat) will be provided to the remaining observers that inform the Protocol and Liaison Service of their attendance, continuing in the English alphabetical order. Specialized agencies and related organizations without permanent offices at Headquarters will not have any preassigned seats and would be accommodated on an ad hoc basis subject to availability.

12. For use of the teleprompter in the General Assembly Hall, please see section XIII. Only the teleprompter provided by the United Nations may be used. Similarly, speakers may not bring their own lectern.

General debate

13. The general debate will begin on Tuesday, 19 September, continue through Saturday, 23 September, and conclude on Tuesday, 26 September.² The general debate will be held from 9 a.m. to 2.45 p.m. and from 3 to 9 p.m.

14. In accordance with resolution 51/241, the list of speakers for each day of the general debate will be completed and no speakers will be rolled over to the next day, the implications for the hours of work notwithstanding.

15. The theme “Rebuilding trust and reigniting global solidarity: accelerating action on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals towards peace, prosperity, progress and sustainability for all” has been proposed for the general debate at the seventy-eighth session, pursuant to resolution 58/126 (annex).

16. In keeping with previous practice, a voluntary 15-minute time limit for statements will be observed. The provisional list of speakers for the general debate was announced on 14 July 2023. Any change or exchange of speaking slots among Member States should be communicated in writing to the General Assembly Affairs Branch (email: galindo@un.org, with a copy to gaspeakerslist@un.org). The list of Heads of State, Heads of Government and Ministers for Foreign Affairs (<https://protocol.un.org/dgacm/pls/site.nsf/HSHGNFA.xsp>), maintained by the Protocol and Liaison Service, will be used for identifying speakers at those levels during the general debate. Permanent missions should ensure the accuracy of their delegation’s information and contact the Protocol and Liaison Service with any

¹ As listed in A/INF/78/3.

² In its resolution 69/250, the General Assembly invited United Nations bodies at Headquarters and other duty stations where observed to avoid holding meetings on Yom Kippur, which falls on Monday, 25 September 2023.

updates. In the case of an address by a Head of State, the President will first announce that the General Assembly will hear an address by a Head of State and request Protocol to escort the Head of State into the Assembly Hall from room GA-200. After the Head of State has entered the Hall, the President, on behalf of the Assembly, will welcome the Head of State to the United Nations and invite the Head of State to address the Assembly. After the conclusion of the address, the President, on behalf of the Assembly, will thank the Head of State for the statement just made and the Head of State will be escorted by Protocol straight to room GA-200. There will be no ceremonial chair on the stage and no handshakes after the address.

High-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly

17. In accordance with resolutions [67/290](#) and [75/290 B](#), the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly will be held on Monday, 18 September and Tuesday, 19 September 2023.

18. The modalities of the high-level political forum on sustainable development are set out in resolution [67/290](#) and in a letter dated 17 July 2023 from the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session.

19. The forum will be convened at the level of Heads of State and Government and will result in a concise negotiated political declaration to be submitted for the consideration of the General Assembly. It will be open to the major groups, other relevant stakeholders and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the General Assembly. United Nations system organizations are also invited to contribute to the discussion of the forum.

20. The forum will comprise an opening segment, a plenary segment, six high-level “leaders’ dialogues” and a closing segment. The opening segment, to be held from 9 to 10 a.m. on Monday, 18 September in the General Assembly Hall, will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the President of the Economic and Social Council. The opening segment will also feature the adoption of the political declaration. Immediately afterwards, a “setting the stage” segment will take place, with the participation of stakeholders including the Sustainable Development Goals Advocates, the Independent Group of Scientists for the *Global Sustainable Development Report*, international financial institutions and youth, civil society and private sector representatives.

21. The opening segment will be followed by a short plenary segment for group statements to hear the actions and commitments delivered on behalf of groups of States.

22. Six leaders’ dialogues will be held to allow Heads of State and Government to set out concrete national commitments to Goals-related transformation. Each leaders’ dialogue will be co-moderated by two States at the level of Heads of State and Government. Participating States will intervene on the specific theme of the leaders’ dialogue to share their concrete new commitments in the field of sustainability. The dialogues will also feature interventions from selected representatives of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, civil society and academia. Commitments and recommendations will be summarized and reported back during the closing segment.

23. The time limit will be three minutes for both national statements during the leaders’ dialogues and statements made on behalf of a group of States during the plenary segment.

24. The list of speakers opened on the e-deleGATE portal on Wednesday, 19 July 2023 at 10 a.m. and will close on Thursday, 31 August 2023 at 6 p.m.

25. The forum will operate under the rules of procedure of the Main Committees of the General Assembly, as applicable. In accordance with resolution 67/290, the arrangements established by the Assembly in the annex to its resolution 65/276 shall apply to the meetings of the forum held under the auspices of the Assembly.

26. Additional information on the high-level political forum, including registration for representatives of the United Nations system, major groups, other relevant stakeholders and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the General Assembly, will be communicated through the *Journal of the United Nations* (<https://journal.un.org>) as well as on the website of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit (<https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023>).

Schedule for the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly

Monday, 18 September

9–9.25 a.m.	Opening segment (General Assembly Hall)
9.25–10 a.m.	“Setting the stage” segment (General Assembly Hall)
10–10.30 a.m.	Plenary segment (General Assembly Hall) Actions and commitments delivered on behalf of groups of Member States (3 minutes each)
10.30 a.m.–noon	Leaders’ dialogue 1: “Scaling up actions on key transitions to accelerate SDG progress” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
12–1.30 p.m.	Leaders’ dialogue 2: “Building resilience and leaving no one behind” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
3–4.30 p.m.	Leaders’ dialogue 3: “‘Game-changers’: applying science, technology, innovation and data for transformative action” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
4.30–6 p.m.	Leaders’ dialogue 4: “Strengthening integrated policies and public institutions for achieving the SDGs” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)

Tuesday, 19 September

3–4.30 p.m.	Leaders’ dialogue 5: “Unity and solidarity: strengthening the multilateral system for enhanced support, cooperation, follow-up and review” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
4.30–6 p.m.	Leaders’ dialogue 6: “Mobilizing finance and investments and the means of implementation for SDG achievement” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
6.15–7 p.m.	Closing segment (Trusteeship Council Chamber)

High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development convened by the President of the General Assembly

27. In accordance with resolution 69/313, the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development of the General Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023, in the morning and in the afternoon in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

28. The Dialogue will be informed by the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and will result in an official summary reflecting the initiatives and recommendations emerging from the discussion.

29. The President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, will finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting. As indicated in the preliminary programme for the Dialogue, circulated in a letter from the President of the General Assembly dated 27 June 2023 and posted on the meeting web page (<https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/ffddialogue2023/>), the Dialogue will comprise an opening, two interactive round tables and a close. Each interactive round table will consist of two segments and will feature keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government and eminent experts on specific topics, interventions from Member States and stakeholder responses. Information pertaining to the registration of speakers will be circulated in due course.

30. The High-level Dialogue will be held according to the following schedule:

9 a.m.	Opening (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
	Interactive round table 1 on the theme “Reforming the international financial architecture to achieve the SDGs” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
3 p.m.	Interactive round table 2 on the theme “Innovative solutions to unlock SDG investments” (Trusteeship Council Chamber)
	Close (Trusteeship Council Chamber)

31. Representatives of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities wishing to attend the Dialogue must be accredited either through the Economic and Social Council or the financing for development follow-up process or must be included in the formal delegations of accredited organizations. However, owing to limited space, registration will not guarantee participation. Further details on stakeholder registration will be available on the meeting web page.

High-level meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

32. The high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response will be held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023, according to the following schedule:

10–10.30 a.m.	Opening segment (Conference Room 1)
10.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Plenary segment (Conference Room 1)
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder panel 1 (Conference Room 2)
3–5.30 p.m.	Plenary segment (Conference Room 1)

3–5 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder panel 2 (Conference Room 2)
5.30–6 p.m.	Closing segment (Conference Room 1)

33. The modalities of the high-level meeting are set out in resolution [77/275](#). The President of the General Assembly, in close consultation with Member States, the World Health Organization and other relevant international organizations, will finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting, including the overall theme of the high-level meeting and the themes of the multi-stakeholder panels in line with paragraphs 2 and 4 (c) of resolution [77/275](#). The overall theme of the high-level meeting is “Making the world safer: creating and maintaining political momentum and solidarity for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response”.

34. The opening segment will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly; the Secretary-General; the Director General of the World Health Organization; the President of the World Bank Group; as well as an eminent high-level champion of pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, selected in consultation with Member States by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender balance, level of development and geographical representation.

35. The plenary segment will comprise statements by Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies. Statements will be limited to three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States.

36. The closing segment will comprise summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly.

37. The high-level meeting will approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration on, inter alia, mobilizing political will at the national, regional and international levels for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, informed by and aligned with the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body and of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005), to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the Assembly.

38. The two multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary segment and will be co-chaired by two representatives, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with Member States, taking into account gender balance, level of development and geographical representation.

39. The multi-stakeholder panels will address the following themes:

Panel 1: Ensuring equity through governance and accountability for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response by utilizing multisectoral coordination at all levels;

Panel 2: Ensuring equity through capacity-building for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and harnessing timely, sustainable and innovative financing and investment.

40. Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies are encouraged to participate at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and to consider including in their delegations to the high-level meeting ministers from all relevant ministries, as appropriate, as well as representatives such as parliamentarians, mayors and governors, representatives of

Indigenous Peoples, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, community organizations, religious leaders and faith-based organizations, academia, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and pandemic preparedness, prevention and response networks, with due regard to gender balance.

41. Observers of the General Assembly are also invited to be represented at the highest possible level.

42. The United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, are invited to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and are urged to consider relevant initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the meeting, particularly with regard to sharing evidence and good practices, challenges and lessons learned.

43. Non-governmental organizations with relevant expertise that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting.

44. The President of the General Assembly has drawn up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the high-level meeting, including its panel discussions, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard for gender parity, has submitted the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and has brought the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting (see letter dated 19 July 2023 from the President of the General Assembly and decision 77/564).

High-level meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly on universal health coverage

45. The high-level meeting on universal health coverage will be held on Thursday, 21 September 2023, according to the following schedule:

10–10.30 a.m.	Opening segment (Conference Room 1)
10.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Plenary segment (Conference Room 1)
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder panel 1 (Conference Room 2)
3–5.30 p.m.	Plenary segment (Conference Room 1)
3–5 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder panel 2 (Conference Room 2)
5.30–6 p.m.	Closing segment (Conference Room 1)

46. The modalities of the high-level meeting are set out in resolution [75/315](#). The President of the General Assembly, in close consultation with Member States, will finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting, including the overall theme of the high-level meeting and the themes of the multi-stakeholder panels in line with paragraph 3 (c) of resolution [75/315](#). The overall theme of the high-level meeting is “Universal health coverage: expanding our ambition for health and well-being in a post-COVID world”.

47. The opening segment will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly; the Secretary-General; the Director General of the World Health Organization; the President of the World Bank Group; as well as an eminent high-

level champion of universal health coverage, selected, in consultation with Member States, by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender balance.

48. The plenary segment will comprise statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly. A list of speakers for the plenary segment will be established in accordance with established practices of the Assembly. Statements will be limited to three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States.

49. The closing segment will comprise summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly.

50. The high-level meeting will approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the Assembly.

51. The two multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary segment and will be co-chaired by two representatives, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with Member States, taking into account gender balance, level of development and geographical representation.

52. The multi-stakeholder panels will address the following themes:

Panel 1: What is a primary health care approach and why does it matter?

Panel 2: Aligning our investments for health and well-being in a post-COVID world.

53. Member States are encouraged to participate at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and to consider including in their delegations ministers from all relevant ministries, parliamentarians, mayors and governors, representatives of civil society, Indigenous leadership, community organizations and faith-based organizations, academia, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and universal health coverage networks, with due regard to gender balance.

54. Observers of the General Assembly are also invited to be represented at the highest possible level.

55. The United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, are invited to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and are urged to consider relevant initiatives, such as the International Health Partnership for UHC2030, in support of the preparatory process and the meeting, particularly with regard to sharing evidence and good practices, challenges and lessons learned.

56. Non-governmental organizations with relevant expertise that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting.

57. The President of the General Assembly has drawn up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the high-level meeting, including its panel discussions, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard for gender parity, has submitted the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and has brought the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the

Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting (see letter dated 19 July 2023 from the President of the General Assembly and decision 77/562).

Preparatory ministerial meeting for the Summit of the Future

58. The preparatory ministerial meeting for the Summit of the Future will be held on Thursday, 21 September 2023 in accordance with resolution [76/307](#) and decision [77/557](#), from 9 a.m. to noon and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. It will consist of an opening segment followed by statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly at the ministerial level (see letter dated 25 July 2023 from the President of the General Assembly).

High-level meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis

59. The high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis will be held on Friday, 22 September 2023, according to the following schedule:

10–10.30 a.m.	Opening segment (Conference Room 1)
10.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Plenary segment (Conference Room 1)
11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder panel 1 (Conference Room 2)
3–5.30 p.m.	Plenary segment (Conference Room 1)
3–5 p.m.	Multi-stakeholder panel 2 (Conference Room 2)
5.30–6 p.m.	Closing segment (Conference Room 1)

60. The modalities of the high-level meeting are set out in resolution [77/274](#).

61. The high-level meeting will focus on the theme “Advancing science, finance and innovation, and their benefits, to urgently end the global tuberculosis epidemic, in particular by ensuring equitable access to prevention, testing, treatment and care”.

62. The opening segment will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly; the Secretary-General; the Director General of the World Health Organization; the Chair of the Stop TB Partnership Board; an eminent high-level champion of the fight against tuberculosis; as well as a person affected by tuberculosis, selected in consultation with Member States by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender balance.

63. The plenary segment will comprise statements by Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies. Statements will be limited to three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States.

64. The closing segment will comprise summaries of the multi-stakeholder panels and concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly and a statement by a person affected by tuberculosis, selected in consultation with Member States by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender balance.

65. The high-level meeting will approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the Assembly.

66. The two multi-stakeholder panels will be held in parallel to the plenary segment and will be co-chaired by two representatives, one from a high-tuberculosis-burden country and one from a low-tuberculosis-burden country with successful tuberculosis

control programmes, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with Member States, taking into account gender balance, level of development and geographical representation.

67. The multi-stakeholder panels will address the following themes:

Panel 1: Accelerating multisectoral actions to ensure equitable high-quality people-centred tuberculosis care, and addressing determinants of tuberculosis in the context of universal health coverage;

Panel 2: Scaling up adequate and sustainable national, regional and international financing to ensure equity in tuberculosis service delivery, innovative strategies, as well as for the research and development of new diagnostics, vaccines and medicines.

68. Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies are encouraged to participate at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and to include in their delegations ministers from all relevant ministries, as appropriate, representatives such as parliamentarians, mayors and governors of cities and states with a high burden of tuberculosis, representatives of Indigenous Peoples, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, community organizations and faith-based organizations, academia, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and networks representing people affected by tuberculosis, with due regard to gender balance.

69. Observers of the General Assembly are also invited to be represented at the highest possible level.

70. The United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including the World Health Organization, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, as well as the Stop TB Partnership, hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services, Unitaid, hosted by the World Health Organization, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as appropriate, are invited to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate, and are urged to consider relevant initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the meeting, particularly with regard to sharing good practices, challenges and lessons learned from tuberculosis-related responses.

71. Non-governmental organizations with relevant expertise that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to register with the Secretariat to attend the meeting.

72. The President of the General Assembly has drawn up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the high-level meeting, including its panel discussions, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard for gender parity, has submitted the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and has brought the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting (see letter dated 19 July 2023 from the President of the General Assembly and decision 77/563).

High-level plenary meeting convened by the President of the General Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

73. In accordance with General Assembly resolution [77/47](#), the high-level plenary meeting convened by the President of the Assembly to commemorate and promote

the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons will be held on Tuesday, 26 September.

74. The high-level meeting will be convened in Conference Room 4, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., with the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution 77/47. The aim of the meeting is to raise awareness about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their elimination in order to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

75. The meeting will comprise opening statements, followed by a general exchange. Further information on the programme for the high-level meeting and inscription on the list of speakers will be circulated in due course.

76. Delegations are encouraged to be represented at the highest possible level.

IV. Events convened by the Secretary-General

Sustainable Development Goals Action Weekend

77. The Sustainable Development Goals Action Weekend will take place on 16 and 17 September 2023. It will consist of the Sustainable Development Goals Mobilization Day (16 September), to be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the Sustainable Development Goals Acceleration Day (17 September), to be held from 9 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. The Sustainable Development Goals Mobilization Day will provide an opportunity for stakeholders from all sectors to convene inside the United Nations Headquarters building and mobilize towards an ambitious Sustainable Development Goals Summit and high-level week of the General Assembly. The Sustainable Development Goals Acceleration Day will build on the 12 high-impact initiatives that the United Nations development system is mobilizing around in advance of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit. The initiatives relate to six major Sustainable Development Goal transitions, five critical means of implementation and the cross-cutting priority of gender equality. The Deputy Secretary-General has addressed a letter to Member States, dated 5 July 2023, regarding the Sustainable Development Goals Action Weekend, and more information is available on the Sustainable Development Goals Summit website (<https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/SDG-Action-Weekend>).

78. In parallel with the main programme, a limited number of high-level side events will be organized by Member States, United Nations entities, relevant international organizations and stakeholder networks. Sustainable Development Goals Action Weekend side events should feature the ways in which collaboration with stakeholders across different sectors is supporting transformation in different contexts and at different levels. The side events should act as platforms for committing support and announcing actions, leadership and investment to bring the progress and actions needed in order to meet the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The side events will be identified through an open call. All interested parties are invited to submit their applications by 4 August 2023. Applications can be submitted online through the form at the following link, and delegations are encouraged to read the accompanying guidelines for Sustainable Development Goals Action Weekend side events before applying (<bit.ly/SDGWeekendSideEventsApplication>).

Climate Ambition Summit

79. The Climate Ambition Summit will be held on Wednesday, 20 September 2023 at United Nations Headquarters.

80. The aim of the Climate Ambition Summit is to showcase leaders of Governments, civil society, local authorities, financial institutions and the private sector that are leading in the delivery of credible and concrete actions to keep the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement alive and deliver climate justice to those on the front lines of the climate crisis, in response to the Secretary-General's Acceleration Agenda to fast-track climate action in this critical decade.

81. Letters of invitation to the Climate Ambition Summit have been transmitted to Heads of State and Government. Further details on the time, programme and format of the Summit will be provided in due course.

V. Documentation and interpretation

82. At the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, delegations should submit requests for a limited number of hard copies of official documents to the Chief of the Meetings Support Section (email: chiefmss-dgacm@un.org), at least three working days prior to the date on which they are needed. Official documentation is also available online through the Official Document System (<https://documents.un.org>).

83. Delegations requiring hard copies of documents can utilize the print-on-demand services provided at the Documents Assistance Centre located on the 2nd floor of the Conference Building (room CB-0264) as well as the Documents Counter located in the first basement level of the Secretariat Building (room S-1B-032). For further enquiries, contact 212 963 7348/9.

84. The daily *Journal of the United Nations*, featuring information on the current day's meetings and on forthcoming meetings, and summaries of official meetings held the previous day, is available in a multilingual digital format, compatible with mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets, at <https://journal.un.org>. In addition to the programme of meetings being held at Headquarters, the *Journal* provides useful information, including with regard to other meetings, informal consultations by permanent missions, the list of Chairs of regional groups for each month, signatures and ratifications of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, the daily list of documents issued at Headquarters, International Court of Justice meetings held at The Hague, conferences and summits, the global calendar of conferences and meetings, and other events organized by permanent and observer missions. PDF versions may be downloaded from the web page. In addition, the progressive web app is a downloadable application that allows users to read the *Journal* on their devices. Instead of manually going to the *Journal* website through a browser, the progressive web app allows readers to view the *Journal* directly from an app. The progressive web app for the *Journal* is available in all six official languages. Enquiries regarding the *Journal* should be addressed to the Journal Unit (email: journal@un.org).

85. The list of documents issued for the day and the *Journal* are also available through the eSubscription service (www.undocs.org) of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. Delegates can sign up to receive the latest edition of the *Journal* and documents issued daily at Headquarters for viewing directly on their computers or mobile devices.

86. To facilitate the provision of interpretation, verbatim reporting and summary record services, delegations are requested to submit their statements (preferably in Microsoft Word, as well as in PDF format) by email to estatements@un.org. The title

of the meeting and the name of the speaker, as well as the agenda item, should be indicated in the subject line of the email and in the heading of the statement. The statement should be submitted well in advance of the meeting, but no later than two hours before delivery, and not in hard copy. The statements will remain embargoed until their delivery, after which they will be available in the eStatements section of the *Journal*.

87. Statements made in any of the six official languages of the General Assembly are interpreted into the other official languages. Speakers are requested to deliver the statement at a speed that is interpretable. While delegations are increasingly given a time frame in which to deliver their statements, they are kindly requested to do so at a normal speed, to enable the interpreters to provide an accurate and complete rendition of their statements. When statements are delivered at a fast pace, the quality of the interpretation may suffer. It is suggested not to exceed the speed of about 100 to 120 words per minute (as a guide for statements delivered in English) to ensure that the statement is delivered at a normal pace.

88. Any speaker may also make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, in accordance with rule 53 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the delegation in question must provide an interpreter from the non-official language into an official language. Exceptional arrangements for bidirectional interpretation facilities for Heads of State or Government may be requested. However, there will be only limited facilities to accommodate such non-official language interpreters on site. Delegations seeking to provide their own interpreters for non-official languages are requested to inform the Meetings Management Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management well in advance by email (gmeets@un.org) and to copy the Interpretation Service (is-unhq@un.org), the Protocol and Liaison Service (unprotocol@un.org) and the Broadcast and Conference Support Section (request-for-services@un.org). The Meetings Management Section will provide further instructions.

VI. Credentials

89. In accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, credentials for the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly must be addressed to the Secretary-General and signed by the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs. In accordance with rule 25 of the rules of procedure, the delegation may consist of not more than five representatives and five alternate representatives and as many advisers, technical advisers, experts and persons of similar status as may be required by the delegation.

90. Delegations are requested to submit scanned copies of the credentials, as well as of other communications containing the names of representatives to the seventy-eighth session (such as letters and notes verbales from the permanent missions), if possible, by 29 August 2023, through the online platform, e-Credentials, under the tab entitled “78th session of the General Assembly”, which can be accessed through the e-deleGATE portal (<https://edelegate.un.int>). Email submissions of scanned copies of the credentials will not be accepted. Only the original hard copy of the formal credentials should be delivered to the Office of Legal Affairs located on the 36th floor of the Secretariat Building.

VII. Protocol registration and access arrangements for Member States, observers, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations

Registration

91. Registration of official delegations will be carried out by the Protocol and Liaison Service. Missions and offices are required to submit their registration requests for members of their delegations (in-person participants only) by using the existing online e-Registration system, available through the e-deleGATE portal (<https://edelegate.un.int>). Please note that it is not necessary to register as a virtual participant in order to follow meetings online, which are broadcast via United Nations Web TV or on the Internet. Delegations wishing to obtain information on the system may refer to the updated guidelines on e-Registration and frequently asked questions on the Protocol and Liaison Service website (www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/protocol/registration-processes). It should be noted that all registration requests, including requests for VIP passes, must be submitted through the e-Registration system. The deadline for submission of registration requests is Friday, 8 September 2023.

92. Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes or Princesses will be offered VIP passes without photographs. Deputy Prime Ministers and cabinet ministers will be provided VIP passes with photographs.

93. The working hours of the registration unit (telephone: 212 963 7181) in the Protocol and Liaison Service in the days prior to and during the high-level meetings and the general debate are posted on the Protocol and Liaison Service website and at the entry to the Protocol Office.

Access to meeting rooms and restricted areas

94. During the high-level meetings and the general debate of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, access to the first basement, ground floor, 2nd floor and parts of the 3rd floor of the United Nations Headquarters complex will require a regular delegate's pass and a colour-coded secondary access card or a meeting-specific ticket. The access cards or tickets are transferable strictly among members of a delegation only. For that purpose, the Protocol and Liaison Service will proceed as follows:

Access to the General Assembly Hall and other conference rooms for the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals Summit) and associated leaders' dialogues on Monday, 18 September 2023, and Tuesday, 19 September 2023 (afternoon)

Permanent missions:

- Each permanent mission will be issued six tickets of one colour for access to the General Assembly Hall and all areas of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings on 18 September 2023 until 10.30 a.m.
- Each permanent mission will be issued two tickets of a different colour for access to the leaders' dialogues in the Trusteeship Council Chamber on 18 September 2023 after 10.30 a.m. and two tickets of a different colour for the leaders' dialogues in the Trusteeship Council Chamber on 19 September 2023 in the afternoon.

Intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies:

- Each intergovernmental organization will be issued two colour-coded tickets and each specialized agency will be issued one colour-coded ticket for access to the General Assembly Hall and all areas of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings on 18 September 2023 until 10.30 a.m.
- Each intergovernmental organization and specialized agency will be issued one ticket of a different colour for access to the leaders' dialogues in the Trusteeship Council Chamber on 18 September 2023 after 10.30 a.m. and one ticket of a different colour for the leaders' dialogues in the Trusteeship Council Chamber on 19 September 2023 in the afternoon.

Access to the General Assembly Hall for the general debate, as well as to the 2nd floor of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings, from 19 to 26 September 2023

Permanent missions:

- Each permanent mission will be issued six cards of one colour for access to the General Assembly Hall and all areas of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings (all area "gold").

Intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies:

- Each intergovernmental organization will be issued two colour-coded access cards and each specialized agency will be issued one colour-coded access card for access to the General Assembly Hall and all areas of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings (all area "gold").

Access to other meeting rooms from 18 to 26 September 2023

95. In addition, for most high-level meetings taking place from 18 to 26 September 2023, meeting-specific tickets for access to various conference rooms will be issued to representatives of Member and observer States, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies participating in these meetings and associated panel discussions. These tickets will allow access into the conference room stated on the respective ticket on the date and time stated on the ticket. The meeting room can be accessed via the restricted areas of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings on the date and time of the respective meeting. Additional details will be made available in due course.

Floater (18–26 September 2023)

96. Additionally, permanent missions, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies will receive a limited number of "floaters", which allow for the presence of support staff during the period from 18 to 26 September 2023 within the restricted areas. A floater does not grant access to a conference room.

Permanent missions:

- Each permanent mission will be issued four cards of one colour for access to the 2nd floor as well as the ground floor, first basement and 3rd floor of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings ("blue floater"). This card will not grant access to a conference room.
- Each permanent mission will be issued two cards of a different colour for access to parts of the first basement and 3rd floor of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings ("orange floater"). This card will not grant access to a conference room.

Intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies:

- Each intergovernmental organization and specialized agency will be issued two cards of one colour for access to the 2nd floor as well as the ground floor, first basement and 3rd floor of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings (“blue floater”). This card will not grant access to a conference room.
- Each intergovernmental organization and specialized agency will be issued two cards of a different colour for access to parts of the first basement and 3rd floor of the General Assembly and Conference Buildings (“orange floater”). This card will not grant access to a conference room.

97. A detailed map explaining the different restricted zones will be made available on the home page of the Protocol and Liaison Service.

98. Colour-coded access cards will be distributed by the Protocol and Liaison Service on Thursday, 14 September 2023 between 2 and 6 p.m. in Conference Room A. Thereafter, access cards may be collected at the Protocol Office, in room S-0200, during office hours.

99. During the address of the heads of delegations at the plenary meeting of the general debate, seats will be reserved in a VIP area for spouses of the Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes or Princesses, provided that the Chief of Protocol is notified in advance of their attendance. Priority will be given to spouses of Heads of State. In addition, depending on availability, a limited number of seats will be reserved for guests of delegations on the 4th floor balcony, and in VIP section A (up to eight seats) of the General Assembly Hall during the address of the head of delegation. Access to those areas will require a special courtesy ticket distributed by the Protocol and Liaison Service upon reservation.

100. To make a reservation in the VIP area and the balcony, permanent missions are required to submit a request, by completing an online SG.40 form (entitled “Reservation for courtesy tickets for the general debate”) in the Protocol dropdown menu in the e-deleGATE portal (at <https://edelegate.un.int/portal/protocol/tickets>), specifying the names and titles of all attendees (one seat for the spouse of the head of delegation and up to eight seats for VIP section A) and the date (morning or afternoon) of the address of the head of delegation, at least one week in advance of the address. The number of tickets desired for the 4th floor balcony should also be indicated in the form; however, tickets are subject to availability. The link will be active for reservations starting Tuesday, 5 September 2023. The special courtesy tickets will be available for collection at the Protocol Office, in room S-0200, after 3 p.m. on the day prior to the address to be made by the head of delegation.

101. All documents, forms and information material on the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly issued by the Protocol and Liaison Service may be accessed at its website (www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/protocol).

VIII. Welcoming

102. Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes or Princesses participating in the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly will be welcomed by the Secretary-General from 8 to 8.50 a.m. on Tuesday, 19 September 2023, in the Economic and Social Council Chamber and North Delegates Lounge on the 2nd floor of the General Assembly Building.

IX. Joint briefing

103. A joint in-person briefing on the high-level meetings and the general debate will be held on Thursday, 24 August 2023 by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, including the Protocol and Liaison Service, and by the Department of Safety and Security, the Division of Administration of the Department of Operational Support, the Office of Information and Communications Technology, the Department of Global Communications and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

X. Arrangements for meetings

Facilities (side events and bilateral meetings)

104. As noted in a letter dated 12 June 2023 from the Chef de Cabinet to the Secretary-General, transmitted by a letter dated 13 June 2023 from the President of the General Assembly, relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, inter alia, have underlined the urgent need for the United Nations system to singly and collectively limit the number of side events held in parallel with or in the margins of the general debate and stressed the need to limit the number of high-level events held in the margins of the general debate to those of key significance that require immediate attention from Heads of State and Government. Requests for side events from Member States will be coordinated and scheduled by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, in accordance with the established procedures, and according to precedence of meetings that are being organized by regional groups or other major groupings.

105. For bilateral meetings, temporary booths will be available in the General Assembly Building and the visitors' lobby during the high-level week of the seventy-eighth session. Seating capacity is limited to two principals and six advisers in total.

Reservation system for bilateral meetings

106. An electronic reservation system will be activated through gMeets (<https://conferences.unite.un.org/gMeets>) on Tuesday, 22 August 2023 to provide for the equitable and efficient use of the facilities. Delegations are requested to submit reservations electronically by accessing <https://conferences.unite.un.org/gMeets> using their gMeets account username and password and clicking on the "Bilateral" tab. Delegations that require a gMeets account can email gmeets-helpdesk@un.org. The date and time of the bilateral meeting and the name of the other delegation participating in the meeting should be specified in the request. Reservations will be accepted for bilateral meetings of 20 minutes' duration, on the hour and half hour. To prevent double bookings, only the delegations initiating the bilateral meeting(s) should submit the request.

107. Information about booth assignments will be provided one day prior to the meeting. Depending on the programme, every effort will be made to keep a delegation's consecutive appointments in the same booth. Late requests will be accepted until 6 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting, and every effort will be made to assign a booth on the basis of the availability of space at that time. Delegations requiring further information regarding bilateral meeting requests should send their questions or enquiries to bilats-msu@un.org.

XI. 2023 Treaty Event

108. To promote the wider participation of States in over 600 multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General by facilitating their signature or deposit of binding instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession during the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, special arrangements will be made, including media coverage, for a Treaty Event from 19 to 22 September 2023 in the treaty-signing area on the ground floor of the General Assembly Building. Appointments for signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession should be arranged well in advance with the Treaty Section (email: treatysection@un.org). The Treaty Section can also be contacted at 212 963 5047 (Front Desk). Those countries intending to sign, ratify or accede to a convention or treaty must submit copies of their instruments of full powers, if required for signature, or copies of their instruments of ratification or accession, to the Treaty Section for review, preferably, by 8 September 2023. The original instruments are expected at the time of undertaking the relevant treaty action.

109. Detailed information relating to the 2023 Treaty Event, including the letter of invitation from the Secretary-General, a list of all multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and procedural information, can be obtained from the United Nations Treaty Collection website (<https://treaties.un.org>).

110. In addition to the Head of State or Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs, two individuals per delegation will be permitted at the event. It should be noted that it is the responsibility of the delegation to escort the representative who will be undertaking the relevant treaty action to the venue five minutes prior to the scheduled appointment. A protocol officer will be present to greet and escort dignitaries (Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes or Princesses).

111. In order to have access to the premises during the 2023 Treaty Event, national and international media must have previously obtained proper media accreditation from the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit of the Department of Global Communications. For more information, please visit www.un.org/malu/ or contact the Unit at malu@un.org or 212 963 6934.

XII. Security arrangements

General considerations

112. The Headquarters complex will remain closed to the public for the entirety of the high-level period and the general debate, as of 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 13 September until close of business on Sunday, 1 October 2023. All guided tours will be suspended during this period.

113. Access to the United Nations complex during the high-level meetings will be restricted to delegates and their staff; staff members of the United Nations Secretariat and of the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system; accredited media; and affiliates who have been issued a United Nations grounds pass.

114. Members of civil society and non-governmental organizations who are invited to attend the high-level meetings or other events will be required to be in possession of a valid Member State-issued photo identification and a special event ticket (indicating a specific meeting, date and time) at all times. The issuance of special event tickets is the responsibility of the United Nations sponsoring office and/or permanent mission. Non-United Nations guests will require a sponsoring office or delegation staff member escort from the access point on Second Avenue and 46th Street to the meeting or event location.

115. For all government delegations (Member States or observers), grounds passes will be issued at the office of the Pass and Identification Unit, located at 320 East 45th Street. For grounds passes for national security officers accompanying Heads of State or Government, contact Captain Eric Bramwell, Special Services Unit (email: security-unhq-specialservices@un.org; telephone: 212 963 7531). Missions and offices are required to submit their registration requests for security personnel (in-person participants only) by using the existing e-Registration system, available through the e-deleGATE portal (<https://edelegate.un.int>).

116. It should be noted that access to the United Nations Headquarters complex will be denied to anyone who is not in the above-listed categories and who is not in possession of a valid grounds pass or special event ticket. To avoid last-minute difficulties, all Governments are requested to ensure the proper accreditation of their delegations.

117. Questions or concerns should be directed to Michael Browne, Chief of the Security and Safety Service, United Nations Headquarters, by contacting the Security Event Planning Unit (Captain Dorcus Lourien, email: security_service_coordinator@un.org; telephone: 212 963 7028), or through Inspector Malinda McCormack (email: mccormackm@un.org; telephone: 212 963 1867).

Access to the United Nations Headquarters complex from Monday, 18 September to Tuesday, 26 September 2023

118. The opening hours of the pedestrian entrances are as follows:

42nd Street and First Avenue	24/7 (VIP pass holders, delegates, staff and affiliates access only)
46th Street and First Avenue	6 a.m. to close of business (VIP pass holders and delegates, staff and affiliates with secondary colour-coded access cards only)
47th Street and First Avenue	6 a.m. to close of business (media, members of civil society and non-United Nations guests in possession of a special event ticket only)

119. Please be aware that all packages brought onto the premises by all categories of persons, including delegates and staff, will be subject to security inspection.

120. Prior arrangements are required to be made through notification to the Security Operations Centre at extension 3-6666 for after-hours access to the premises by the press and affiliates.

No pedestrian access through the delegates' entrance

121. During the high-level week of the seventy-eighth session, the delegates' pedestrian entrance gate, located at 45th Street and First Avenue, will be closed owing to motorcade activity. The gate located on the south side of the 46th Street and First Avenue entrance will be reserved for the use of high-level VIPs, heads of delegations, permanent representatives to the United Nations, members of delegations that have been issued secondary access cards and senior United Nations staff who are in possession of gold-coloured grounds passes in order to access the delegates' entrance.

Pass and identification office: issuance of grounds passes

122. In preparation for the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, the Pass and Identification Unit, located on the ground floor of the FF Building at 320 East 45th Street, will be open to staff members and members of delegations.

123. The issuance of annual and temporary non-governmental organization passes will be suspended from Friday, 1 September 2023 to the end of the general debate. Any non-governmental organization invited to attend meetings or events during the high-level period will be issued with special event tickets by the sponsoring United Nations office or Member State.

124. The days and hours of operation of the office will be as follows:

Monday to Thursday, 11 to 14 September	8.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday, 15 September	8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 16 and 17 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday to Wednesday, 18 to 20 September	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday and Friday, 21 and 22 September	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 23 and 24 September	Closed
Monday and Tuesday, 25 and 26 September	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Access to restricted areas

125. In accordance with the established procedures, it should be noted that access to the General Assembly and Conference Buildings is reserved for members of delegations and staff who are conducting official business. In all cases, including for staff members of the United Nations, valid United Nations grounds passes and secondary colour-coded access cards will be required. Owing to space constraints on the 2nd floor of the General Assembly Building, members of delegations in possession of a grounds pass and a secondary colour-coded access card are requested not to congregate within that area and instead to utilize the 2nd floor of the Conference Building.

126. Representatives of non-governmental organizations in possession of a valid special event ticket are not permitted access to the restricted areas; their access to meetings at Headquarters will be honoured upon verification of a valid special event ticket issued for that day's meeting(s).

Escorted motorcade drop-off

127. Escorted motorcades will be authorized to enter the United Nations Headquarters complex at the 43rd Street and First Avenue vehicular entrance and drop off their passengers at the delegates' arrival tent. Thereafter, they will be required to exit the premises through the 45th Street and First Avenue gate. All escorted motorcade movements on the premises will be established by the Security and Safety Service and coordinated in conjunction with the host country.

Unescorted motorcade drop-off

128. Unescorted vehicles will be allowed to drop off passengers at the 46th Street and First Avenue crosswalk. A valid United Nations grounds pass and an authorized United Nations e-tag (issued by the Garage Administration and labelled "UNGA78") will be required for presentation at the 46th Street and Second Avenue vehicle checkpoint prior to access being granted.

Traffic in the Secretariat Circle and through the 43rd Street gate

129. The very limited operating space in the Secretariat Circle and delegates roadway areas requires strict controls in respect of access to those areas, in order to ensure safety and to avoid undue obstructions and delays of delegation vehicles and the motorcades of high-level government officials.

130. Vehicular access to the premises through the gate at First Avenue and 43rd Street is permitted only to host country law enforcement-escorted motorcades.

131. The regular traffic pattern permitting authorized vehicles to exit the Secretariat Circle through the 45th Street gate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays will resume on Monday, 2 October 2023.

Parking

132. For the duration of the high-level meetings and the general debate, with the exception of escorted motorcades, all vehicles authorized to enter the premises will be permitted to enter the garage through the 48th Street entrance, which will be operational from 6 a.m. to close of business daily from 18 to 23 September and from 25 to 26 September. The exit will be through 42nd Street. Please note that traffic lanes within the third basement service drive and roadways in the garage must be kept free of stationary vehicles at all times. Vehicles left in those areas will be subject to towing.

133. All vehicles entering the Headquarters complex will be subject to search. Thus, it is highly recommended that drivers limit the contents inside their vehicles in order to expedite the physical security clearances.

134. Bicycles, scooters and other portable personal means of transport, including battery operated versions, will not be permitted in the Headquarters premises.

XIII. Media access arrangements and services

135. Media representatives with a valid United Nations grounds pass will be allowed to cover the general debate and other high-level meetings without additional accreditation.

136. Accreditation of media representatives accompanying the delegation, including official photographers and videographers, will be carried out by the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit. Missions and offices are required to submit their media accreditation requests by using the e-Registration system, available through the e-deleGATE portal at <https://edelegate.un.int> (see instructions at https://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/pdf/eRegistration_guide_media_passes.pdf). Requests should be submitted no later than 8 September 2023 to ensure timely processing. Government press or information officers should not be accredited as members of the media, unless their role is to take photos or videos. Official photographers and videographers should be accredited as media to ensure access to cover meetings and other media opportunities.

137. Media representatives who wish to apply for accreditation independently must submit the online form and upload a request on the letterhead of their media organization. The deadline for media representatives to request accreditation on their own behalf is 1 September 2023. Instructions can be found at <https://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/accreditation.shtml>.

138. Media representatives can pick up their grounds pass at the Pass and Identification Unit, at 320 East 45th Street, until Sunday, 17 September 2023. From Monday, 18 September to Tuesday, 26 September 2023, media representatives can

collect their grounds pass at the Visitors Centre, UNITAR Building, 801 First Avenue. The days and hours of operation will be as follows:

Monday to Wednesday, 18 to 20 September	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday and Friday, 21 and 22 September	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 23 and 24 September	Closed
Monday and Tuesday, 25 and 26 September	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

139. All media representatives must clearly display their United Nations grounds passes at all times.

140. The designated entrance for accredited media is located at 47th Street and First Avenue, where media representatives and their equipment will be subject to security screening. All media representatives will be required to present a valid United Nations grounds pass to the United Nations security officers at the gate.

141. Members of the media are advised to arrive early to allow sufficient time for screening. Last-minute arrivals will encounter delays, in particular when First Avenue is closed for motorcades.

142. Accredited media must be escorted by Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit staff at all times in the restricted areas. Escort is available from the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit office (room S-0250) and the ad hoc liaison desks.

143. Media representatives who wish to access the media booths of the General Assembly Hall will be required to use the external ramp located on the east side of the General Assembly Building.

144. Official photographers, escorted by Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit staff, will also be able to take photographs from the bridge at the back of the General Assembly Hall during national statements. Owing to space limitations, they may not be able to remain to cover other speeches.

145. A limited number of tickets will be available for the press gallery of the General Assembly Hall and other meetings that require secondary event tickets. Media liaison desk staff will distribute tickets on a first-come, first-served basis 30 minutes before the meetings. Delegations organizing meetings should inform the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit whether media can attend and allocate press tickets accordingly.

146. Official media representatives interested in covering bilateral meetings with the Secretary-General must be at the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit office (room S-0250) at least 30 minutes ahead of the meeting time.

147. Delegations will be provided secondary “press attaché” cards to enable delegates to escort their media representatives to bilateral meetings between Member States in the designated bilateral booths only. Holders of “press attaché” cards may enter with the delegation media at the 47th Street entrance.

148. A temporary media centre will be located on the North Lawn. Media representatives are required to bring their own cables to connect to the live video and audio feeds for recording purposes.

149. Live video feeds and downloadable files and photographs will be available from the Department of Global Communications (see the section entitled “United Nations

audiovisual materials” in https://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/pdf/GA78_NMD_media_resources.pdf).

150. Members of the media can request documents, statements and press releases from the Media Documents Centre by emailing mdc@un.org or visiting room S-0219.

151. A list of in-person and online meetings, briefings and other events open to the media will be posted daily at www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/alert.shtml.

152. Information regarding media accreditation and arrangements during the high-level period will be continually updated at <https://www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/unga.shtml>.

153. For more information, contact the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (email: malu@un.org; telephone: 212 963 6934).

Audiovisual services

154. Audiovisual services for meetings and events at the United Nations complex in New York are provided by the Broadcast and Conference Support Section of the Office of Information and Communications Technology (email: request-for-services@un.org; telephone: 212 963 9485; room: CB-1B-79).

155. Clients should initiate all requests for meetings or events requiring audiovisual services through the meetings planning and resource allocation system (gMeets) or One-Stop Shop (please refer to the related user guides). For audiovisual services, please select the Broadcast and Conference Support Section to identify the services required. Following the approval of the meeting or event, clients should engage the services of the Section, if required.

United Nations audiovisual materials

156. Photographs in digital format (JPG) will be available for download free of charge on the United Nations photo website (<https://dam.media.un.org>). Photo enquiries and requests should be addressed to the United Nations Photo Library (email: photolibrary@un.org).

157. Digital files of speeches delivered during the general debate can be downloaded from the United Nations Audiovisual Library website (www.unmultimedia.org/avlibrary) in MPEG-4 (H.264) format free of charge. Delegations may request high-resolution broadcast-quality video files, such as MOV files, through the Audiovisual Library (email: avlibrary@un.org). Delegations may also request digital copies of other meetings through the Audiovisual Library, subject to availability. All requests will be serviced in the order in which they are received.

158. Audio files of speeches in digital format (MP3) will also be available for download free of charge from the United Nations Audiovisual Library website. Audio enquiries and requests should also be addressed to the United Nations Audiovisual Library.

159. Live television feeds will be available through commercial carriers (see www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/pdf/UNTV_Transmission_Guide.pdf). For more information, contact Ingrid Kasper (telephone: 646 258 3740; email: kasper@un.org) or Cesar Martin Redi (telephone: 917 367 9231; mobile: 914 393 1072; email: redi@un.org) at United Nations Television.

160. Only pool television production services will be available from United Nations Television. Broadcasters interested in gaining access to live coverage of the high-level meetings and the general debate should contact Ingrid Kasper or Cesar Martin Redi.

161. The United Nations webcast service will provide daily live and on-demand streaming coverage of the high-level meetings and the general debate through the following platforms:

- United Nations Web TV website (webtv.un.org) – in all six official languages, plus the original language of the speaker
- United Nations channel on YouTube (youtube.com/unitednations) – in English
- Twitter (twitter.com/UNWebTV) – in English

162. Video recordings of each speaker at the general debate will be posted in all six official languages and in the original language of the speaker on the United Nations Web TV website for on-demand access. Additional webcast coverage will include press conferences, media stake-outs and other meetings and events. Queries about webcast coverage should be directed to the United Nations webcast service (telephone: 212 963 6733; email: damianou@un.org or justin@un.org).

Internet and social media

163. The United Nations website (www.un.org) will provide, through a dedicated portal web page (<http://gadebate.un.org>), links to live and on-demand coverage of the high-level meetings of the General Assembly. Any queries about the web page should be directed to Peter Dawkins, Chief of the Web Services Section (telephone: 917 769 1318; email: dawkins@un.org).

164. The Meetings Coverage Section, through its portal websites (English: www.un.org/press/en; and French: www.un.org/press/fr), will provide coverage of the General Assembly plenary and high-level meetings in both English and French. Copies of press releases will also be available on demand, from the Media Documents Centre.

165. The United Nations News website (news.un.org/en) serves as the main portal for United Nations news and will be continuously updated in the six official languages, as well as Hindi, Kiswahili and Portuguese. It will provide a wide array of links to source materials, including press releases, selected reports and statements of the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly. A feed will provide up-to-date news about the work of the General Assembly in all official languages. Readers can also subscribe to a free email news alert service that will deliver stories on the latest United Nations developments straight to their mailboxes or desktops. Daily updates will continue to be provided through the United Nations News social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter and YouTube).

166. Two free smartphone applications are available to enable delegations and the media to follow the proceedings on their mobile phones. The United Nations News Reader app (for Android and iOS devices in the six official languages, as well as Hindi, Kiswahili and Portuguese) provides constantly updated multimedia stories from the United Nations News platforms. Users of the app can also watch meetings live and link to the daily press briefing of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, as well as receive news alerts. United Nations Audio Channels (for iOS and Android devices in the six official languages, as well as Kiswahili and Portuguese) provide selected audio from the General Assembly Hall and the Security Council Chamber, in addition to United Nations News audio programmes in eight languages – the six official languages and Kiswahili and Portuguese. For any urgent matters related to United Nations News, please contact Victor Evans-Harvey (evans-harvey@un.org).

167. Regular social media updates will be posted to the flagship accounts managed by the Department of Global Communications, which are listed at www.un.org/social. Heads of delegations and influencers will be invited to participate online in General Assembly social media activities. Member States are also encouraged to post social

media updates using the hashtag #UNGA. Questions about social media coverage may be directed to the Social Media Section (telephone: 646 708 3312; email: scaddan@un.org).

Briefings and press conferences

168. Daily briefings for the media will be given by the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General at noon in room S-0237. Press conferences by senior United Nations officials, delegations and the permanent missions will be held in the same room, unless otherwise indicated. These arrangements may be altered depending on public health issues. The list of press conferences will be announced daily by the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General. It will also be available on the website of the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (www.un.org/en/media/accreditation/alert.shtml) and on Twitter (@UNMediaLiaison).

169. Delegations can book press conferences by calling the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General (telephone: 212 963 7707, 212 963 7160 or 212 963 7161).

170. Briefings and press conferences are open only to members of the media.

XIV. Broadcast and conference support

171. Audiovisual services for meetings and events at United Nations Headquarters in New York are provided by the Broadcast and Conference Support Section of the Office of Information and Communications Technology (email: request-for-services@un.org; telephone: 212 963 8648).

Conferences, meetings and events

172. The services of the Broadcast and Conference Support Section include the provision and operation of conference room- and meeting-related technology, congress microphone and simultaneous interpretation systems, voting and timer systems, broadcast for television, radio and Internet coverage, recordings, digital displays, digital projection, digital name plates, virtual participation technology (videoconferences technology and managed virtual meetings platforms, such as Microsoft Teams and Cisco WebEx), sound amplification, and accessibility-related services such as closed captioning and sign language. Requests for services should be sent to the Broadcast and Conference Support Section (request-for-services@un.org). Audiovisual and related meeting and event technology and support is provided on a budgeted and reimbursable basis.

173. The following services are provided for official calendar meetings:

- Congress microphone and simultaneous interpretation systems
- Sound amplification and public address systems
- Projection and electronic displays
- Recordings
- Broadcast coverage and transmission
- Digital signage and digital name plates
- Teleprompter(s)
- Captioning (open and closed)
- Display of sign language interpretation

174. Additional services and/or services to non-budgeted meetings are available upon request and provided on a cost-recovery basis. Cost estimates and a rate card are available upon request (email: request-for-services@un.org; telephone: 212 963 8648).

Audiovisual accessibility-related technologies

175. The Broadcast and Conference Support Section facilitates the provision of accessibility-related support technologies and services, including open and closed captioning and the capture and display of sign language interpretation (email: request-for-services@un.org; telephone: 212 963 8648).

Broadcast, streaming and recording services

176. Broadcast, streaming and digital audio and video recording services are available for meetings and events.

Video projection, television and computer monitors and other digital display and audio-related services

177. Projectors, monitors and speaker systems for multimedia playout, presentations and display in conference and meeting rooms are provided by the Broadcast and Conference Support Section. Cost estimates and a rate card are available upon request (email: request-for-services@un.org; telephone: 212 963 8648).

XV. Access to representatives of non-governmental organizations

178. From 1 September 2023, no new passes will be approved or issued for representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council for the duration of the high-level week of the General Assembly. Access to United Nations premises will be granted with valid United Nations grounds passes only until 15 September 2023. From 18 to 29 September 2023, the use of annual and temporary grounds passes for non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to enter the Headquarters complex will be suspended.

179. A limited number of special passes for the General Assembly will be distributed daily from 18 to 26 September by the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs on a first-come, first-served basis at the corner of Second Avenue and 46th Street from 9 to 10 a.m. and from 2 to 3 p.m. for participation on the same day. Owing to the limited number of passes available, and in order to provide equal opportunity to all non-governmental organizations in consultative status to attend the sessions, special half-day passes will be distributed to one representative of each NGO to attend either the morning session or the afternoon session of the general debate, but not both. In other words, non-governmental organizations participating in the morning session cannot participate in the afternoon session.

180. If representatives of non-governmental organizations register for specific events and are approved to participate, they will be issued name-specific special passes for those events by the Department of Safety and Security, for distribution by the event organizers. The usual procedures for United Nations grounds passes will be reinstated as of 2 October 2023.

XVI. Medical services

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

181. All attendees who are unwell should immediately leave the complex and seek medical support from an external provider. Any attendee who becomes ill with COVID-19-like symptoms or who tests positive for COVID-19 after attending an event at the United Nations complex is strongly encouraged to notify their sponsoring entity or permanent mission, who will determine whether this information is to be shared with other attendees according to their own protocols.

Emergencies/other care

182. During the high-level meetings, an immediate medical response capability for emergencies will operate from the Headquarters medical clinic in the Secretariat Building and, depending on the circumstances, may be supported by New York City emergency response services. Attendees with any other illness are encouraged to see a local physician for further care, but may seek support from the Headquarters medical clinic on the 5th floor of the Secretariat Building for first aid for minor physical injuries.

183. Delegations with questions relating to medical issues, including support arrangements for Heads of State, are requested to send their enquiries by email to unhqclinic@un.org.

XVII. Host country liaison

184. All enquiries concerning host country matters should be directed to James Donovan at the United States Mission to the United Nations during regular business hours (telephone: 646 510 0008; after hours, 212 415 4444, 646 510 0008) or to Lisa Bowen (telephone: 212 415 4144; mobile: 646 510 0041).

XVIII. Additional information and briefing sessions

185. Additional information will be issued if the need arises to update and expand the information contained in the present note. In addition, question-and-answer sessions for interested delegations may be arranged in the weeks leading up to the high-level meetings and the general debate.

186. In the lead-up to the high-level meetings, the following information documents will be issued:

- Note verbale from the Protocol and Liaison Service on protocol/accreditation arrangements
- Press kit for the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly
- Delegates' handbook
- Required set-up for virtual meetings with interpretation

187. Cafeteria services at Headquarters during the high-level meetings and general debate of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly are as follows:

- Delegates Dining Room and private dining rooms may be reserved for private functions. Please contact the Director of Catering, Lee Hayden (telephone: 212 963 7029; email: lhayden@culinartinc.com).

- Riverview Café, 4th floor of the Conference Building, open until 15 September 2023; closed from 18 to 22 September; and reopens as from 25 September 2023, from 11.30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Vienna Café, first basement level of the General Assembly Building, open from 16 to 17 September 2023, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; from 18 to 22 September, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; normal operating hours from 25 September 2023, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Main Café, 1st floor of the South Annex Building, open from 18 to 22 September 2023, from 7.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Lobby Café, 1st floor of the Secretariat Building, open until 13 September 2023; closed from 14 to 22 September; reopens as from 25 September 2023, from 8 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.
- North Delegates Lounge, 2nd floor of the Conference Building, open until 14 September 2023; closed from 15 to 19 September; reopens on 20 September from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; normal operating hours from 21 September 2023, from 9.30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- South Garden outdoor dining area, by the satellite dish, first basement level of the Secretariat Building, open from 18 to 22 September, from 7.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Café de la Paix, first basement level of the Secretariat Building, temporarily reopens from 18 to 22 September 2023 from 11.30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; closed thereafter.
- Visitors Café, first basement level of the General Assembly Building, normal operating hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

188. A total of 17 vending machines are in operation at United Nations Headquarters, as follows:

- Visitors Centre, General Assembly Building, first basement level (two snack, two hot beverage and two cold beverage)
- Library neck area, 1st floor, between the South Annex Building and the Library Building (one snack and one cold beverage)
- Conference Building, 1st floor (one snack, one hot beverage and one cold beverage)
- Corridor by the Pouch Office (GA-3B-710), General Assembly Building, third basement level (one snack and one cold beverage)
- Language Learning Centre (corridor by NL-3B-BCSTN-25), North Lawn Building, third basement level (one snack and one cold beverage)
- Department of Safety and Security Command Centre Pantry, Conference Building, second basement level (one snack and one cold beverage)

XIX. Sustainability

189. The United Nations has put in place a number of measures to minimize its environmental impact, including in relation to reducing energy and water consumption and preventing and managing waste at United Nations Headquarters. All participants are encouraged to contribute to sustainability efforts.

190. United Nations Headquarters implements a single-use plastic ban, and has removed single-use plastics from catering and other services provided to staff and

visitors since June 2019. Waste segregation is encouraged, and properly labelled waste bins are available in strategic locations within the Headquarters complex. Participants are urged to comply with relevant procedures and waste separation signage. Participants are also encouraged to bring reusable bottles and mugs and to avoid disposable cups and plastic water bottles.

191. Participants are encouraged to minimize paper consumption. Participants are urged to use portable devices as the main way to access documentation, including the daily *Journal of the United Nations*, to limit demand for printed materials and reduce paper consumption. Participants are also encouraged to distribute non-official documentation electronically.

192. A number of online services are made available for the benefit of delegations. Participants should consider the eSubscription service (www.undocs.org) of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management before printing documents.

XX. Accessibility: arrangements for persons with disabilities

193. Delegations are requested to inform the Secretariat of the accessibility requirements of delegates in order to facilitate participation in meetings. Upon request, adjustments can be made to seating arrangements with a view to enabling the participation of persons with disabilities, in accordance with paragraphs 33 and 34 of General Assembly resolution 73/341. For individual requests, please contact the Meetings Support Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (email: accessibilitycentre@un.org; telephone: 212 963 7348/9) no later than three working days prior to the meeting. Every effort will be made to assist with reasonable accommodation, should it be available.

194. The Meetings Support Section also offers a print-on-demand service for meeting participants requiring Braille copies of official documents. Requests for Braille copies should be sent to the Chief of the Meetings Support Section (email: chiefmss-dgacm@un.org) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting date for processing. The Braille printouts can be collected at the Accessibility Centre located in the first basement level of the Conference Building (room S-1B-032), adjacent to the Secretariat Building escalators.

195. The United Nations Accessibility Centre offers assistive information and communications technology to support those with auditory, visual or physical impairments. The assistive devices are available on-site or as a loan to participants with disabilities. The Accessibility Centre is located in the Conference Building (first basement level, by the Secretariat Building escalators). For further enquiries regarding available assistive tools, please contact the Centre (email: accessibilitycentre@un.org; telephone: 212 963 7348/9). More information is available at www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/accessibility.

XXI. Focal points for arrangements related to high-level meetings

General Assembly Affairs	Ruth de Miranda Email: demiranda@un.org
	Kenji Nakano Email: nakano@un.org
Protocol and Liaison Service	Beatrix Kania Telephone: 917 367 6166 Email: beatrix.kania@un.org
	Nicole Bresson-Ondieki Telephone: 917 367 4320 Email: bresson@un.org
Delegation registration and access	Wai-Tak Chua Telephone: 212 963 7181 Email: chuaw@un.org
For e-Registration technical issues:	Information and communications technology help desk Telephone: 212 963 3333 Email: missions-support@un.int
Documents Management Section	Deirdre Durrance Telephone: 917 367 5409 Email: durrance@un.org
	Masud Rana Telephone: 917 367 2141 Email: rana@un.org
	Manuel Abraham Telephone: 917 367 5793 Email: dms@un.org
Meetings management	Xin Tong-Maywald Telephone: 917 349 2427 Email: tongx@un.org , gmeets@un.org
	Alice Grimason-Fuchs Telephone: 212 963 3546 Email: grimason-fuchs@un.org , gmeets@un.org
Journal Unit	Meena Sur Telephone: 917 367 2454 Email: journal@un.org , surm@un.org
Interpretation services	Sergey Kochetkov Telephone: 212 963 8233 Email: kochetkov@un.org
Verbatim reporting	Ibrahima Diallo Telephone: 917 367 8147 Email: diallo4@un.org , with copy to verbatim@un.org

Meetings support and logistics

Narendra Nandoe
Telephone: 212 963 1807
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Kefentse Ndonga
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Statements submission
Telephone: 212 963 7349
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Security

Michael Browne
Telephone: 917 367 9211
Email: browne2@un.org

Inspector Paula Goncalves
(Security Operations)
Telephone: 212 963 3694
Fax: 212 963 1833
Email: goncalvesp@un.org

Captain Dorcus Lourien (Security Event
Planning Unit) Telephone: 212 963 7028
Fax: 917 367 7032
Email: dorcus.lourien@un.org

Media

Mugeni Badjoko
(Meetings coverage)
Telephone: 212 963 2131
Email: badjoko@un.org

Tal Mekel (Accreditation)
Telephone: 212 963 1504
Fax: 212 963 4642

Ingrid Kasper
(Broadcast and United Nations Television)
Telephone: 646 258 3740

Peter Dawkins
(United Nations website)
Telephone: 212 963 6974
Email: dawkins@un.org

Jamille McCord
(Press conferences)
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Facilities and Commercial Activities
Service

Andrew Nye
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Broadcast and Conference Support
Section

Patrick Morrison
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Medical

Dr. Mike Rowell
Telephone: 212 963 7090
Email: rowell@un.org

Nursing Officer, Petra Javanainen
Telephone: 212 963 7090
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Non-Governmental Organizations
Branch (Office of Intergovernmental
Support and Coordination for
Sustainable Development, Department
of Economic and Social Affairs)

Wook-Jin Chang
Email: chang10@un.org

Nahleen Ahmed
Email: ahmed36@un.org

Non-Governmental Liaison Service
(Civil Society Unit, Department of
Global Communications)

Andi Gitow
Email: gitow@un.org

Kathryn Good
Email: ngls@un.org

Civil Society Resource Centre (Civil
Society Unit, Department of Global
Communications)

Email: undgccso@un.org

Major groups and other stakeholders
(Office of Intergovernmental Support
and Coordination for Sustainable
Development, Department of Economic
and Social Affairs)

Friedrich Soltau
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Host country

James Donovan
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(after hours: 212 415 4444, 646 510 0008)
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Lisa Bowen
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