

24 May 2011

Excellency,

As mandated, the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) of the 2011 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) will adopt a Ministerial Declaration on its theme: "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education".

Considering its importance and the high level of interest in this year's theme, as well as the number of related activities scheduled to be held in Geneva, I am proposing that we aim to find agreement on the Ministerial Declaration in advance of the High-level segment. I am attaching a draft outline of the key elements which I see as essential to this year's Ministerial Declaration.

With this in mind, I propose to convene an informal meeting on Thursday, 26 May 2011, to review the draft outline and to map the way forward in the lead-up to Geneva. This initial consultation will provide delegations an opportunity to put forward their comments and suggestions on the outline. On the basis of your feedback, I will then circulate a zero draft of the Ministerial Declaration to serve as the basis for the consultations that will follow. I hope to begin informal consultations on the zero draft around Monday, 6 June 2011.

The Bureau and I hope to be able to count on your continued support in ensuring that the Ministerial Declaration will chart a ground-breaking path for education.

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

Lazarous Kapambwe

All Permanent Representatives To the United Nations New York