



**Common
Agenda**

C4UN OCA REPORT

**On UN General Assembly Informal Interactive Dialogue
with the 77th PGA candidate H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi (Hungary)**

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(May 2022)



Introduction

On 5 May 2022 at the United Nations General Assembly Hall, H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi of Hungary engaged in a three-hour informal interactive dialogue with UN delegates as candidate for President of the 77th session (2022-2023) of the GA. Ambassador Kőrösi was nominated by the Group of Eastern European States. The election of the incoming PGA will take place on 7 June 2022 at 10 a.m.

Having previously served as Hungary's permanent UN representative in New York between 2010 and 2014, Ambassador Kőrösi was warmly welcomed back by fellow delegates who commended him for his outstanding leadership as former co-chair of the Open Working Group on the SDGs and vice-president of the General Assembly. Following introductory remarks amplifying on his [vision statement](#), he engaged in a dialogue on a wide variety of issues related to the recommendations made in the Secretary-General's 'Our Common Agenda', that included his views on the significance of the preparations to be made for the Summit of the Future (SOTF) in 2023 during his tenure. Ambassador Kőrösi also addressed other key concerns and priorities by Member States for the 77th session of the GA, including the devastating impact of the military conflicts now raging in Ukraine and other countries, highlighting the PGA's responsibility to build bridges and defend the UN Charter.

This report highlights key takeaways from Ambassador Kőrösi's testimony as well as a summary of comments from Member States, political groups and civil society, that focus on the OCA proposals and the SOTF. At the dialogue, Member States emphasized that the next session of the General Assembly will be crucial in ensuring the implementation of the OCA proposals and shaping the preparation for the summit. Informed by his experience as co-chair of the OWG on SDGs, Ambassador Kőrösi stressed that the SOTF will be one of the most significant undertakings of the UN since 2015 with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. The general contours of the modalities to be negotiated at the General Assembly in preparation of the summit emerged from the interactive dialogue both in terms of process and content. Ambassador Kőrösi also elaborated upon his priorities and the proposed working methods for the OPGA during the 77th session of the General Assembly.

As Member States continue their deliberations in preparation for the Summit of the Future, we offer the following compilation as a resource to assist in our collective advocacy going forward.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

From Ambassador Csaba Kőrösi

On the Summit of the Future

- **Concerning the SOTF**, it will be a major event in September 2023 as proposed by the SG and his document OCA. In my understanding and my evaluation **it will be one of the most significant undertakings of the UN, certainly the most important since Agenda 2030**. As it looks now, it should be forward looking based on the complex nature of the crisis we are in, and decisions may be developed keeping in mind the need for solutions out of the box.
- **On the SOTF, let me just reemphasize in my understanding it will be the most important undertaking of the UN since 2015**. It will be a vision of what kind of world we are going to have for many, many years to come. It will be a vision of how we would like to imagine ourselves, the human society and international community, and how we are going to transform the world.
- **The HLAB report and findings will be important to define the key building blocks and objectives of the summit**. Far-reaching topics include the governance for global public goods, sustainability transformation beyond 2030, a new agenda for peace and security, Global Digital Compact, peaceful use of outer space, agreement on Emergency Platform and Declaration of Future Generations.
- Last but not least we have already discussed the **different angles of the SOTF**. As mentioned, in my understanding, though it will be beyond the mandate of the 77th GA, the preparatory process will mostly be done during the next year. **It will be one of the most weighty and most significant events in the years to come**.

On SOTF modalities resolution

- Upon the initial report, it can be decided how to advance progress in the GA. **In autumn, I believe facilitators will be invited to develop modalities, then in the second phase, content. Time is very short. You may remember when we prepared the SDGs it took us more than two years. Now we're going to have much less than one year.**

The time for the preparations for the summit is extremely short. In my understanding it is much shorter than needed but we are not in a position to change it now, **so in very early autumn we will ask two or more ambassadors**, we will see, to start leading a process on modalities. **As soon as we can get some initial suggestions from the HLAB, we will immediately start planning how to run the consultations and negotiations on the content**. Once again, it is not important to produce long papers. It is most important how our leaders take commitments that will be a game changer in most of our countries.

- **How and what kind of inputs can we envisage to the process leading to a successful SOTF?** I wish I had the wisdom now in my pocket. **The initial package of political and scientific recommendations might be expected at the earliest later this year.** I am sure that we will have a good opportunity to discuss it but **I am also sure that during our deliberations we need to invite those who made the recommendations, and we need to invite representatives of science.** Those questions that are on the table that are shaping the new world are the complex issues that we can have on our agenda so we will need very good facilitators for this process, very committed membership, and very disciplined work from all of us.
- When we have a very complex question to be facilitated by ambassadors in order to convene countries from different walks of life and interests, **facilitators are needed with vast experience, broad acceptance in the UN community, who have the capability to reach out, and who have good records.** I think there are many, many good candidates among the present ambassadors.
- In response to Mexico, **regarding the intergovernmental processes leading to the fruitful implementation of the OCA.** I also feel the complexity of the challenge and I feel the very, very broad expertise needed to make a good process. I also feel the necessity that Member States must be on board from the very beginning until the successful end. **I am eagerly waiting for the summary and evaluation of the 5 rounds of discussions you had in the GA.** I think it will be very telling where we are and what might be the next steps. I promise that we will make very good use of the discussions made so far and it can be taken as a ground for further planning of the process. **It will be a process for many years but part of the work will have to be done during the 77th GA including those intergovernmental processes and negotiations that will be components of the final package.**
- **On the implementation of the OCA,** I fully agree and hear you and my friends from civil society, to let's speed up and go ahead, we fully understand you. Everything that is humanly possible will be supported and done in the OPGA. Let's take logical steps. **Let's see first what is the compilation of suggestions and lessons learned after the 5 rounds of debates in the GA.** When we see that we can plan, we can plan the process. **We can decide what are the issues that should be decided upon in the GA, what are the issues that should be clearly left to the SG and the secretariat for their implementation, and where are those issues where the GA can help the process to move forward.** I fully agree with you that there is no more time to waste.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

From Ambassador Csaba Körösi

On civil society/stakeholders

- I will devote **special attention to impact oriented and regular consultations** with civil society organizations, youth representations, science based knowledge centers, representatives of the business community, and key institutions of finance.
- On the question **regarding the involvement of civil society**, I think we need definitely involvement and commitment of those whose development, wellbeing, security and future are at stake when we search for solutions on key challenges. The successful conferences and previous deliberations of the UN have all demonstrated how useful the contribution by civil society can be.
- **But now let me turn to my friends representing NGOs and CSOs.** You are encouraged to bring your contributions to the decision-shaping process but be prepared to embrace integrated agendas. The more you can integrate your cases into a broader web of interlinking factors the better will be the chances of finding satisfactory solutions. **I'm prepared to hold regular fora, and let me repeat regular fora, with civil society and youth representatives as well as academia.** The agenda of these informal discussions will be in harmony with the upcoming events of the GA in order to make sure that the good ideas and suggestions would find their ways and be utilized at the GA fora.
- **The other type of social contract we need to make is among all stakeholders**, it is among all of us - politicians, governments, local governments, academia, civil society, faith-based organizations. If we have a basic understanding of where we would like to see this planet in 15, 20, 50 years time, if we have that basic contract, then we have a chance to make agreements on the basics.

On Russian invasion of Ukraine

- **Ukraine will have a serious and lasting impact on the UN.** On 2nd March, GA adopted a resolution demanding that Russia immediately withdraw from Ukraine. In reality, crisis management has already become a permanent process. There is a large-scale war in Europe with global consequences. Some pillars of global architecture have been seriously undermined.
- Some questions were related to the **conflict in Ukraine. The PGA's job is to build bridges and defend the Charter.** In Article 1.1 the purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security. In 2.3, all members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered. In Par 4 all members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat of the use of against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. Of course, it applies to all conflicts that we observe in the world.

- **On the issue of accountability**, also the principle comes from the Charter and UDHR. Point to two directions of fact finding being explored now. **On the first, breach of international law.** In the case of Ukraine, ICC fact-finding mission is on the ground, some 400 cases are being investigated. You have already met with the ICC. The head of the investigating team of ICC or ICC itself might be given new opportunities to give account on the fact finding if the GA decides so. **The other direction of the fact finding, goes towards human rights abuses.** As you may know in the case of Ukraine, a Commission of Inquiry has been mandated by the HRC back in 2014. Now recently 3 member strong committee has been set up. If they have a report to be presented, the head of this committee can be invited to brief the Member States. Not only in the case of Ukraine, but in the case of all conflicts where we are seeking accountability, the objective is to stop the war, to stop hostilities, and to remind the participants of their responsibilities for the acts they have committed. **The special session of the GA on the conflict in Ukraine has been open. In case of need, it can be resumed.**

Other key priorities discussed for 77th GA

- Education Summit, climate change, biodiversity loss, human rights (inc. relations between NY & Geneva), gender equality, new peace agenda, peacebuilding, peace with nature, Global Digital Compact, multilingualism, multiculturalism, veto initiative & SC reform, sustainability transformation/SDGs/post-Agenda 2023, Adis Ababa Agenda, science-based evidence, communication strategy, OPGA methodology, counter-terrorism, Covid-19/vaccines/mental health, sovereign debt crisis, Scientific Advisory Board, UN Conference on Water (March 2023), international food security assessment, 30th anniversary of Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National, Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities, cyberspace, beyond GDP, intergenerational solidarity

Summary Notes of Informal Interactive Dialogue¹

Ambassador Csaba Kőrösi's opening statement

- Ukraine will have a serious and lasting impact on the UN. On 2nd March, GA adopted a resolution demanding that Russia immediately withdraw from Ukraine. In reality, crisis management has already become a permanent process. There is a large-scale war in Europe with global consequences. Some pillars of global architecture have been seriously undermined.
- **You might have found large similarities between the OCA and the vision statement for the 77th GA.** Among them the necessity for an integrated approach to risk factors that we face, a desire to reduce strategic risks, a willingness to strengthen international foresight, a call for stronger engagement between the UN system and IFIs, the necessity to introduce new measurements of development to complement GDP, a determination to strengthen science informed decision-shaping and the belief in the value of the impact oriented work of the GA.
- In some areas we have a chance for breakthroughs during the 77th session of the GA, but we all have to work very hard for it.
- **What will be the guiding principles?** 1) The OPGA will do its best to be a good example of thinking and acting in terms of an integrated agenda of peace, prosperity and sustainability, and to be an agent of multilateralism. 2) It will work in a task force system. 3) Professionalism, expertise, regional and gender balance will be our important yardsticks. 4) Impartiality with an intention to build bridges among sides will be our principle of operation. 5) Full transparency, accountability and efficiency will have to characterize our work. 6) The office will be a promoter of the values of multiculturalism and multilingualism. 7) It will coordinate actions with the SG, the Security Council, ECOSOC and all other relevant organs of the UN. 8) I will devote special attention to impact oriented and regular consultations with civil society organizations, youth representations, science based knowledge centers, representatives of the business community, and key institutions of finance.
- Let us remember the words of Mahatma Gandhi, be yourself the change you want to make in this world.

1. There were four rounds of interventions from Member States and one round from civil society. With a focus on the OCA and SOTF, speaker remarks were transcribed from the recording made available to the public on UN Web TV.

FIRST ROUND

EU Statement

The next session will also be crucial in ensuring the implementation of 'Our Common Agenda' and shaping the preparation for the Summit of the Future. It offers the opportunity for a renewed San Francisco moment – it is an opportunity we cannot miss. We want to see broad and inclusive consultations – true to the notion of an inclusive and networked multilateralism. How do you intend to ensure a structured and inclusive process leading up to a Summit that produces ambitious and concrete answers to the needs of our people?

Your commitment to opening up the UN and involving youth and civil society in the work of this body, coupled with your 4S – solutions, sustainability, solidarity and science – leave us very reassured that under your leadership – in close coordination with the Secretary-General, and the President of ECOSOC - **we can make a quantum leap towards a UN 2.0.**

Your credentials on sustainable development and the Agenda 2030 bode very well for our ambition to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs. Education is a key component and the 'Transformative Education Summit' in September will be the first test case of 'Our Common Agenda'. **What contribution do you foresee for the success of this Summit?**

You rightly stress the need to turn ambitions on fighting climate change and biodiversity into action. **Full implementation of the Paris Agreement and the commitments at COP26** will be crucial. How do you intend to ensure the follow-up and at the same time address the ever-growing linkage between climate change, conflicts and food insecurity? What follow-up do you envisage to a new **Global Biodiversity Framework** to be adopted at COP15?

The digital file also deserves our utmost attention. We cannot close the digital divide and won't realise the 2030 Agenda and global recovery without affordable, meaningful and human rights-centred connectivity and digital inclusion. The EU trusts that you keep digitalisation and the discussions towards a **Global Digital Compact high on the agenda**, including emerging technologies, like artificial intelligence, and their implications for human rights.

The GA has recently played a more active role in the **defence of human rights**. How do you intend to strengthen close relations between NY and Geneva needed for the efficiency of the Human Rights System? Do you foresee initiatives to promote economic, social and cultural rights?

In your vision statement you noted "the historic injustice done to half of humanity for centuries". The Secretary-General has led by example in taking decisive action to achieve gender parity in senior management in record time. We also commend the current PGA for his strong commitment to **gender equality** as well as to ensuring gender balance in his office. We trust you, Excellency that you will display the same level of ambition and would be curious about any planned initiatives in this regard.

DJIBOUTI (on behalf of Group of Francophone Ambassadors)

The group has been working on multilingualism for over 30 years committed to the international discussion on this topic. International fora is a place for dialogue and negotiations. **Multilingualism is the cornerstone of multilateralism**, however we have not fully realized multilingualism. First, many international discussions within the GA lack interpretation in the 6 official languages. This situation has been exacerbated by the pandemic and the transition to the virtual format. Second, we have heard concerns with respect to lack of respect for multilingualism in public communications on high-level events organized by the OPGA which today are mostly promoted in English. Similarly, the speakers for these events have not been accounting for linguistic balance. What efforts do you plan on making to ensure that the work of UNGA and OPGA will reflect the linguistic and cultural diversity of our organization more completely?

POLAND

Under your leadership will be the implementation of the OCA first with the **Education Summit in September 2022 and preparation for the SOTF in 2023**. We count on your personal involvement for the success of these initiatives. What is your understanding of the notion of just transition, needed reforms on sustainability and social cohesion, and protection of most vulnerable groups in this process?

INDONESIA

We welcome your emphasis on solidarity. Your priorities putting forward scientific consideration in solving the many critical issues we are facing are also very important such as in the achievement of the SDGs. I would like to hear more about your working methods of the GA. Consensus has become a luxury commodity in the GA. More often this does not stem from the absence of political will but rather from a lack of willingness to have inclusive consultations and dialogue among member states. We would like to hear your strategies on how we can boost consensus driven discussion and ensure inclusive consultation and unity in the GA.

We appreciate your formulated priorities on solidarity, sustainability and science. We are keen to hear more about how this vision may be applied in the daily work of the GA, particularly in ensuring that the work of the GA does not rely on the number of resolutions or events produced, but truly meaningful and effective impact that it has. Finally, my delegation looks forward to working with you and your team advancing our common aspiration for the work of the GA, including our readiness to support the work of the OPGA.

SINGAPORE

- Hungary can be a good builder of bridges between east and west, north and south.
- Welcome the statement that he made, that there is considerable overlap between his vision statement and the Common Agenda.
- Multilateralism and international law are being tested today. As a small state it is critical that we work together that we strengthen multilateralism, defend international law and strengthen the GA. Many small states look to the PGA to stand up for international law and to speak up whenever international law and the principles of the UN Charter are violated no matter who the perpetrators might be. This is absolutely vital for the credibility of the UN and GA.
- With regard to OCA, there has been a lot of good work that has already been done in the last few months and it is really important that the next President build on the good work and maintain the momentum, especially as we prepare for the SOTF in 2023.
- Need to convince people that the UN is relevant to ordinary people around the world. Tell us your communications strategy.

RESPONSE BY AMBASSADOR CSABA KÖRÖSI

- Some questions were related to the **conflict in Ukraine. The PGA's job is to build bridges and defend the Charter.** In Article 1.1 the purpose of the UN is to maintain international peace and security. In 2.3, all members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered. In Par 4 all members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat of the use of against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. Of course, it applies to all conflicts that we observe in the world.
- **On the issue of accountability**, also the principle comes from the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Point to two directions of fact-finding being explored now. On the first, breach of international law. In the case of Ukraine, ICC fact-finding mission is on the ground, some 400 cases are being investigated. You have already met with the ICC. The head of the investigating team of ICC or ICC itself might be given new opportunities to give account on the fact finding if the GA decides so. The other direction of fact-finding, goes towards human rights abuses. As you may know in the case of Ukraine, a Commission of Inquiry was mandated by the HRC back in 2014. Recently, a 3 member strong committee has been set up. If they have a report to be presented, the head of this committee can be invited to brief the Member States. Not only in the case of Ukraine, but in the case of all conflicts where we are seeking accountability, the objective is to stop the war, to stop hostilities, and to remind the participants of their responsibilities for the acts they have committed. The special session of the GA on the conflict of Ukraine has been open. In case of need, it can be resumed.

- **Concerning the SOTF**, it will be a major event in September 2023 as proposed by the SG and his document Our Common Agenda. In my understanding and my evaluation **it will be one of the most significant undertakings of the UN, certainly the most important since Agenda 2030**. As it looks now, it should be forward looking based on the complex nature of the crisis we are in, and decisions may be developed keeping in mind the need for out-of-the-box solutions.
- As you know, in the document OCA, the **SG has suggested setting up a HLAB. Their report and findings will be important to define the key building blocks and objectives of the summit**. Far-reaching topics are on the table that we will have to work with during the next year: governance for global public goods, sustainability transformation beyond 2030, a new agenda for peace and security, Global Digital Compact, peaceful use of outer space, agreement on Emergency Platform and Declaration of Future Generations. I think it is a vision of a new world and it is up to us how this vision will be relevant for the new world. There are already some initiatives and plans by the SG and I am going to consult him on that.
- Upon the initial HLAB report, it can be decided how to advance progress in the GA. **In autumn, I believe facilitators will be invited to develop modalities, then in the second phase, content. Time is very short. You may remember when we prepared the SDGs it took us more than two years. Now we're going to have much less than one year**. The most important would be not the amount of papers we can produce, but the core messages by the leaders on the transformation, strategic objectives, cooperation among different actors, political commitments and assuming historic responsibilities.
- **On transforming the education system**, education is a key pillar of successful transformation to a more sustainable, prosperous, peaceful and secure world. It is encouraging that the preparatory process is well structured, the five priority areas are defined, the national consultations are going on and the public engagement is underway. The bulk of the work is still being conducted in Paris at UNESCO but the responsibilities will come to us here in New York. Though most of the preparations will be done before my eventual taking over of the office, the difference between taking office and the staff of the conference will be less than 10 days. I will follow closely the further rounds of the preparations. The impact oriented preparations and context of the summit will be important for the success of not only this summit but it will be kind of a blueprint on how we can make sure that the high-level meetings during the 77th GA will be created for our nations and communities.
- **On climate change**, as mentioned in my intervention, we are in the next phase. Mitigation must be in high gear, but in Glasgow we decided to speed up adaptation work since some of the grave impacts of climate change are already unavoidable. Very little time is left to deliver on our national promises. The ICCP 6th report has made it clear that unprecedented efforts are needed now. The time for postponement has run out. You will be hearing me reminding countries about science, facts on the ground, to speak in clear language. We shall be judged upon how we acted during this year and next year. There will be no possibility to ask for extra time. Solutions, delivering on commitments, that's all that counts. Transformation will happen anyway, but it makes a huge difference whether we can master it or we can just try to survive them.

- **On COP 15 on biodiversity**, it is my deep conviction that while the major, major risk factor that we are facing is the loss of biodiversity, it might be more dangerous than many would think. I hope very much that the postponed summit meeting, more than twice already, will be convened and conducted later this year. I also hope that it will be the Paris moment for biological protection. Let's see what will be the outcome of the Biological Convention, that it should be a turning point to stop very dangerous processes that will undermine the future of civilization.
- **On the relations between Geneva, New York, human rights affairs.** You are experienced diplomats. You know that it has been a long-standing issue how we can break this so-called New York bubble, Geneva bubble, Vienna bubble, Rome bubble. It means how we can connect the dots? Formal briefings by the President of the Human Rights Council used to be in the late autumn in the GA in the presentation of the annual reports, but is it enough to secure synergies of the two bodies working on related issues? I believe that in normal times it could work, but in crisis time we may need an extra two weeks.
- I would like to **commend President Shahid who has decided and has a plan to visit the Human Rights Council and brief them** on the issues on the table of the GA here in New York. I think it is a good initiative and it should be continued. The PGA could also be invited in cases of concrete crisis when similar issues of outstanding importance appear on the GA and the Human Rights Council. It could be arranged in consultation with you, Member States, at any time.
- **On gender equality, please read my lips: I will follow the good initiative of the present PGA.** I thank him for the good examples. The world cannot utilize its full potential without fully utilizing all of its intellectual capacities. There is still a long way to go to make sure that chances always are everywhere equal. I see two directions of the tasks ahead of us. One of them is the functioning of the GA and the OPGA. The other one is the general empowerment of women across the world. On the first, the composition of the OPGA will depend on the list of diplomats Member States can offer for secondment, but we will do our best to create a team representing gender balance.
- I can inform you that in the Hungarian core team, ladies are and will be in the majority. **It is very likely that the majority of the OPGA will also be ladies. I will pay special attention to gender balance when asking ambassadors to lead GA processes.** That is the easy part. The more difficult part is the empowerment of women across the world. I can promise you that I will regularly consult with UN Women how to have their access. We have a shared vision and shared objective.
- **On peacebuilding and financing for peacebuilding**, obviously, peacebuilding needs more efforts and resources to advance prevention. The more complex the crisis to be addressed, the more integrated tools might be needed. The SG has proposed \$100M to be allocated to boost capabilities in crisis regions on political dialogue, revitalization of the economy, capacity building, protection of human rights and the improvement of administrative services. These capacities are very much needed, particularly in crisis time. The most important concerning peacekeeping and peacebuilding, prevention is always better than managing a full blown crisis. I hope that you will give good consideration of the SG.

- **On multilingualism**, I think the practices embedded during the pandemic should be reversed. I think ensuring inclusivity and transparency requires four aspects of multilingualism, including the selection of speakers at different GA events. Similarly I know the current PGA is paying keen attention to this. It goes beyond interpretation and translation of statements and documents in the six languages at formal meetings.
- **Multiculturalism is our heritage**. We need the wisdom of all nations accumulated throughout the course of history and I see this core UN principle as an opportunity to enrich our debate and work.
- On the question from Poland concerning the **veto initiative**. I think it was a very important decision not only because we now have a precedent, but it seems to have cut a Gordian knot. If necessary, results can be achieved on the **Security Council reform** process on parts of the problems as well while we keep our sight on the totality of the issues identified in the framework of the reform package. To convene the meeting in the case of a veto of the Security Council is not an option now, it is an obligation.
- **On just transition and solidarity**, let me go back again to the principle in my vision statement on solidarity. **When we crafted the SDGs, we understood that it will be one of the major efforts required within societies and among countries to succeed on this transformation**. We should not forget that it will require all resources and all cooperation among members of society and it cannot happen if only one part of the country, society or globe will go through a transformation and the rest is lacking. We are committed in many documents to leaving no one behind and the pandemic has demonstrated how solidarity within societies and among countries impacts social, economic stability and security. In times of crisis which we are going to face, honoring commitments to jointly make our world a better place is more important than ever. It goes to the political, social and economically marginalized groups as well.
- On the question by Indonesia **concerning science in our daily work**. We are confronted with challenges of unprecedented magnitude like biodiversity loss, climate change, the pandemic, but we are also going through some unprecedented changes like the digital revolution. All of these experiences provide convincing proof that the role of science can play a very important role shaping decisions on complex issues. If we disregard scientific evidence we are going to pay very dearly for that. **Transformation can only be based on scientific evidence and the political wisdom of negotiators**. How in daily practice can we take advantage of scientific advice. I can promise you that **there will be regular consultation with science-based institutions**. Their findings and recommendations will always be channeled at the beginning of the major GA events, not in order to take decisions on behalf of Member States but to inform Member States on neutral science-based data for your consideration. The responsibility for decision taking will be always yours.
- **On communication, I think we need to think very seriously about how we communicate to the world**. We need to make sure that the countries and societies we work for understand what we are doing here. We have to make sure that they will be on board when it comes to implementation. **It means we need to use messages that are digestible and understandable for the general public out there**. Therefore I will definitely ask the chairman of the 6 main committees and the VP that even if you take very sophisticated decisions on different matters and resolutions that use academic language, please be prepared in one minute to explain to the media and general public what was the core message of the decision. I will try to do it on my own as well to the work of the GA.

SECOND ROUND

EL SALVADOR

- I have the honor of addressing you on behalf of the co-chairs of the **ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the GA**, the ambassador of Australia and myself. The ad hoc working group has the responsibility of finding new ways of optimizing the authority, efficiency and effectiveness of this Assembly. We welcome your vision, particularly your emphasis on the revitalization of the GA as well as your recognition of the role resolutions on revitalization in providing a clear mandate to improve the work of the entire Assembly. We are also happy to see that you have proposed a number of guiding principles with regard to how the OPGA should work. In that regard as co-chairs we would like to ask the following questions.
- Firstly, could you explain in greater detail your ambition with regard to how the OPGA will work with working groups where the office adopts an interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach in your operations? Secondly, how do you plan to improve coordination between the GA and the SG, Security Council, ECOSOC and other pertinent bodies of the UN? You mention, for example, coordination with the Human Rights Council. It is important for us to know in greater detail what your vision is with regard to coordination within the entire UN system, bearing in mind the important role that the GA plays. You can count on our support for your important work.

LIECHTENSTEIN

- You have already talked about the veto initiative which we had the honor to lead. We thank everybody in this room for the overwhelming support this initiative has received which in the end led to the adoption of **Resolution 76/262** without a vote. The veto in the Security Council is no longer the last word because the issue goes to the General Assembly where we can take action here. We will be consulting very closely with you on the application of the veto initiative.
- On the organization of work, **elaborate on the “task force” approach of your office**. Second, when you talked about the guiding principles, you gave prominence to the Agenda for Peace. We would like some additional elaboration on this because it is our view that we have to focus quite strongly on this particular aspect of the OCA process.

ZIMBABWE

- You highlighted in your statement the **nexus between peace, development and environmental sustainability** as a key ingredient in meeting the inclusive SDGs that seek to leave no one behind. How do you see the GA contributing to this outcome given the many multidimensional challenges that the world faces today?
- **Negotiations on Security Council reform remain stagnant**. How do you see the GA instilling new life and move this process forward during your tenure? On the efforts towards our OCA and the revitalization of the work of the GA, what do you envisage to be the priorities of the GA to strengthen multilateralism for the common good?

TUNISIA

- As you said, Mr. Ambassador, when you mentioned the conditions that the world is facing today, especially since the world is still reeling from the impact of Covid 19 pandemic and now the global conditions that are the result of the war in Ukraine. You noted the **need to enhance multilateralism and the role of the UN and its GA**. My first question is what is your vision for the practical steps needed to entrench this important priority of enhancing multilateralism? Also what is your vision for enhancing solidarity among states? Because the pandemic showed that without solidarity the world cannot make progress or overcome the challenges it is facing nor can the world make any progress towards the achievement of OCA's goals.
- My second question relates to **counter-terrorism** which is one of the most important challenges we are facing in our world today especially since the upcoming session of the GA will coincide with the periodic review of the UN global terrorism strategy. What is your vision on this review process? Do you have any new directions on this review process on enhancing the role of the UN on counter-terrorism in general?

DENMARK

- Allow me three points and two questions. First as co-leads of the **UNmute initiative**, Denmark was really delighted to see in your vision statement you suggest to **host what you call impact-oriented consultations with civil society representatives including youth**. For us it is absolutely critical that we acknowledge the unique experience that civil society brings to the UN and do everything we can to enhance their meaningful inclusion in UN processes. This is not a threat to intergovernmental negotiations but is a welcome and needed additional input to discussions among Member States. How will you work to ensure civil society inclusion in UN processes? How often do you expect to do this?
- Second, very happy to see the inclusion and empowerment of women and girls reflected in your vision statement. **How do you plan in more concrete terms to translate the empowerment of women into action?** I think that the challenge here is not only that you need to follow our current President, who has taken bold steps, but to go further. One suggestion. Would it be relevant in insisting that when you are presented with candidates for secondment that you insist that there be at least one female candidate among those that you are presented with?
- As you suggested the SG's OCA report has presented a very ambitious and needed strengthening of the multilateral system and the UN. In November of last year the GA adopted by consensus, as I recall 166 Member States cosponsoring a resolution that called upon the PGA to initiate a process of follow up in collaboration with all relevant partners. Our current President has taken bold and decisive steps to take this forward. **I was encouraged by your emphasis on the process leading up to the Summit of the Future because your leadership of this is critically needed.** You have the strong mandate from the GA and promise that you have Denmark's strong support to be bold, ambitious, and principled, and to take action. We must break free from the crisis of fragmentation.

RESPONSE BY AMBASSADOR CSABA KÖRÖSI

- **Regarding the task force method of working of the OPGA**, the traditional structure of the OPGA almost every year, in a way, reflects the structures of the 6 committees of the GA. It is a little bit of a reflection of the GA in order to be helpful for the work of the GA. You will see this in the office of the 77th GA as well. My team will make sure that what we offer to you will try to address complex issues from all angles. It is time consuming but we are prepared to do it. We hope that we can inspire the work of the 6 committees and large conferences that you will follow suit. When you address minority issues, education issues, future issues, we hope that you are inspired to make a transformation. In order to do so one needs information, standpoints, inputs from all walks of life.
- **On the question of the peace agenda and OCA**, for those who were a part of the SDG drafting, you may remember that there were a couple of pillars of shared understanding that without peace there is no sustainability transformation, without social justice there is no sustainability transformation, and without sustainability transformation there is no future of civilization. Therefore we believe that the **peace agenda and the sustainability agenda must be and should be interlinked**.
- **On the question concerning counter-terrorism**, I think the previous report on counter-terrorism has made a lot of big changes. Maybe the first task now is to consolidate and implement those changes in terms of institutional and administrative capabilities, human resources and finances. I believe that the main task in this area now and the year to come is to consolidate what has been achieved and move toward implementation.
- On the question **regarding the involvement of civil society**, I think we definitely need the involvement and commitment of those whose development, wellbeing, security and future are at stake when we search for solutions on key challenges. The successful conferences and previous deliberations of the UN have all demonstrated how useful the contribution by civil society can be.
- **But now let me turn to my friends representing NGOs and CSOs**. You are encouraged to bring your contributions to the decision-shaping process but be prepared to embrace integrated agendas. The more you can integrate your cases into a broader web of interlinking factors the better will be the chances of finding satisfactory solutions. **I'm prepared to hold regular fora, and let me repeat regular fora, with civil society and youth representatives as well as academia**. The agenda of these informal discussions will be in harmony with the upcoming events of the GA in order to make sure that the good ideas and suggestions would find their ways and be utilized at the GA fora.
- **On the question of the empowerment of women and girls** and the composition of the OPGA. We have been approached already by many of you suggesting excellent colleagues to the office. My colleagues have already started informal discussions with those who might be applicants for the work of the next OPGA. I can assure you that we will try to select not only the brightest of the best, but to make sure that at least half of them will be women. As it looks now women will be in the majority of the OPGA.

- **On the SOTF, let me just reemphasize in my understanding it will be the most important undertaking of the UN since 2015.** It will be a vision of what kind of world we are going to have for many, many years to come. It will be a vision of how we would like to imagine ourselves, the human society and international community, and how we are going to transform the world. The time for the preparations for the summit is extremely short. In my understanding it is much shorter than needed but we are not in a position to change it now, **so in very early autumn we will ask two or more ambassadors, we will see, to start leading a process on modalities.** As soon as we can get some initial suggestions from the HLAB, we will immediately start planning how to run the consultations and negotiations on the content. Once again, it is not important to produce long papers. It is most important how our leaders take commitments that will be a game changer in most of our countries.
- **On Security Council reform, it is long overdue.** I have been following discussions on the Security Council for more than twenty years. It is and it will remain a Member State-driven process, it will be in your hands. The clusters and structures on the topics that you have identified offer chances now for more productive deliberations. The decisions on the veto which you have taken in this hall is a watershed event in my understanding. Let's use it for the benefit of the international community, let's use it for the benefit of a better understanding, and let's use it for the more constructive engagement of all our countries when we address crisis issues related to conflict.
- **That requires a strictly multilateralist approach.** We have more and more challenges and conflicts that are not only between two countries or actors. We are facing huge challenges that are global. How else could we address them then by reviving multilateralism? This is the place and organization that is entitled and capable of doing so. Let's use our capabilities.

THIRD ROUND

QATAR

- We fully share the priorities that you have outlined for yet another challenging year. As you said, solutions for solidarity, sustainability and science are the way forward. Building on the UN75 anniversary political declaration, the SG has put forward a number of suggestions on this report entitled OCA that was endorsed by the GA. As you said some of these recommendations need clear decisions and actions by the GA. Building also on many questions regarding the SOTF, and beginning this October will be expected **negotiations on the modality resolution for the SOFT**. What steps do you recommend which will ensure, first, diverse perspectives are brought into the summit's preparations, and second, an ambitious and meaningful outcome document follows from this preparatory negotiations?

MEXICO

- At the 77th session we will be following up on some of the recommendations arising from consultations on OCA. Could you share with us your views with regard to what **intergovernmental processes you think are linked to these recommendations** and how you can ensure that they are inclusive, open and transparent? Also in your vision statement you refer to the empowerment of women and girls as an essential part of the GA agenda. Last year my country Mexico together with France led a **Generation Equality Forum** and the SG suggested a plan to speed up gender equality that arose from that forum. He said that it could be a guide to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls by 2030. I would like to ask whether you plan to promote the implementation of this plan?
- Finally, we are happy to see that you have included science as one of your priorities to solve various problems. For Mexico and this Assembly it has been clear that vaccination against Covid 19 should be dealt with as a public good in order to put an end to the pandemic. What is the role that you see for the **GA to liberalize current intellectual property laws** that are preventing the necessary manufacture of vaccines in developing countries?

SOUTH KOREA

- I wish to hear your priorities in revitalizing the work of the GA and also to hear your plans to strengthen the cooperative mechanism between the SC and GA in the context of revitalizing the role of the GA which is the most representative organ of the UN.

CHINA

- Thank you for introducing your vision as PGA candidate for the work of the 77th session of the GA. China welcomes your vision statement and will actively support your work. We hope that the GA will play an important role under your leadership. At present global peace and development are facing daunting challenges as well as intertwined elements of uncertainty and instability. Member states turn their attention to the GA as the most universal and representative policy deliberation and decision-making organ and expect it to play a greater role in international affairs.
- Mr. Kőrösi proposed in his vision statement that in the face of various risks and challenges he intends to lead the GA to seek solutions through solidarity, sustainability and science. We appreciate the priority given to sustainable development and food security, among others, in the vision statement. We hope that the 77th session of the GA will guide member states to firmly **uphold the international system with the UN at its center and the international order based on international law**, practice true multilateralism, promote solidarity, cooperation and dialogue, and make greater contributions to global peace and development.
- Mr. Korosi, in your presentation you mention that the UN is facing multiple challenges to multilateralism. We would be interested to know if you have **any specific ideas on what initiatives to promote greater unity among member states?** My second question is that due to the pandemic and global geopolitical conflicts the gains have been seriously eroded and the uneven global economic recovery has exacerbated global inequality. What **might be the potential priority areas that the 77th GA** should focus on, taking into full consideration the special situation of developing countries as well as their urgent needs, including poverty reduction, food security and production of livelihood in order to give robust support to all the countries in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda?

CHILE

- We very much appreciate what you said about **sustainable development taking into account things other than GDP**. This has been very clear during the crisis, particularly from middle income countries. You also referred to the role of science. It is very difficult sometimes because all the disinformation that exists makes it hard to make decisions. It is very important, as you said, that decisions should be evidenced-based and based on science in our work. I wanted to refer in particular to what you said about increasing solidarity to face common challenges and intergenerational solidarity. We're concerned about the **role and contributions of older persons** and how that affects multilateralism and also how we can have a more sustainable recovery. My country is leading the Group of Friends of Older Persons. They are one of the groups that are least protected and we would like to know your view with regard to how we can better integrate them to strengthen multilateralism and the economic recovery.

RESPONSE BY AMBASSADOR CSABA KÖRÖSI

- In response to Qatar, let me congratulate you and your co-chair for successfully facilitating the UN75 political declaration. I think it is a good example in which direction we should go. **How and what kind of inputs can we envisage to the process leading to a successful SOTF? I wish I had the wisdom now in my pocket.** The initial package of political and scientific recommendations might be expected at the earliest later this year. I am sure that we will have a good opportunity to discuss it but I am also sure that during our deliberations we need to invite those who made the recommendations, and we need to invite representatives of science. Those questions that are on the table that are shaping the new world are the complex issues that we can have on our agenda so we will need very good facilitators for this process, very committed membership, and very disciplined work from all of us.
- In response to Mexico **regarding the intergovernmental processes leading to the fruitful implementation of the OCA.** I also feel the complexity of the challenge and I feel the very, very broad expertise needed to make a good process. I also feel the necessity that Member States must be on board from the very beginning until the successful end. **I am eagerly waiting for the summary and evaluation of the 5 rounds of discussions you had in the GA.** I think it will be very telling where we are and what might be the next steps. I promise that we will make very good use of the discussions made so far and it can be taken as a ground for further planning of the process. **It will be a process for many years but part of the work will have to be done during the 77th GA including those intergovernmental processes and negotiations that will be components of the final package.**
- On science, I wish I could make a process where intellectual property rights will be changed. It would be from my heart, but I am not owing them, **so we need to discuss with the IPR organization where we are standing, what we can do.** We can invite them for a consultation and make suggestions from the floor and let's listen to them. The pandemic has told us a lot of the fair distribution of the vaccines and the knowledge that we have accumulated. There is one piece of good news. In every crisis there is an opportunity to make a breakthrough and it has been achieved now. Now we have the technology to produce vaccines for some future virus against some future diseases, not in 10 years time that was prevailing earlier, but now technology allows us to produce vaccines within a month once the genetic sequence of the virus has been completed. It's a major breakthrough, it will save millions of lives, and it should be utilized for all across the globe.
- Also reflecting on the remarks of Korea, and many thanks for responding so positively on inviting science and scientific evidence to help shape decision-shaping processes. Now let me also invite you, in order to make the best scientific evidence, we need actors and we need science-based institutions. We have discussed it already with the **SG and he has promised me that the Scientific Advisory Board that will be reconvened under his office will cater to the GA as well.** But we may need extra input on certain issues that will be on our agenda. I would like to now invite you all because we need contributions and inputs from across the globe. **If you have high standard science-based institutions in your country or a high standard researcher with excellent results, please let my future office know about them** with a recommendation to what subject, what area you would like to recommend them to be invited to inform the GA. Please help us in order to help you.

- On the question by China regarding global inequalities and the major issues that will be on our agenda, ladies and gentlemen, **I went through the list of mandated events prepared for this 76th and 77th GA.** It means that you have identified those questions that you deemed important to be studied and discussed. **May I inform you that just for these two years the mandated events take 51 pages, so I think we need a little bit of selection.** If we want to stage all of the mandated events then we shall be jumping from one to another with limited possibility of drilling in and taking science-based and transformative decisions.
- Let me pinpoint some of the events I believe will be of crucial importance. I would like to invite you to think about them, how we can advance the course of history. **Agenda 2030 will be half way through so the HLPF next year will be of crucial importance** but may I invite you to have a very honest and open discussion to give account to ourselves of what has been achieved and what are the remaining hurdles and how are we going to overcome them.
- In **March 2023 the first comprehensive UN conference on water** since 1977 will be convened. It is time to make a breakthrough on a number of burning issues related to water. We don't have another 50 years to wait. We don't even have 20 years. On some water-related issues we have to make the breakthrough now and **I hope to devote a PGA convened conference in late October or early November** as a preparatory stage for the March 2023 comprehensive UN conference on water.
- The **Summit on Transforming Education** has been discussed already, but it will tell us how we cherish the most precious resource we have on this planet, our children.
- **COP 27 on climate policies** will offer us an opportunity to see how our pledges made in Glasgow will be implemented and how we can respond on the urgency of the case and the situation both on adaptation and mitigation. Let me call your attention to the importance of adaptation. Some countries are on the verge of a major disaster. They can be saved if major adaptation will be strengthened if international solidarity and help will be provided.
- On food security, there is a **mandated event for the international food security assessment** for early summer. But taking into consideration the actual situation of the international food markets and the very dire situation in a number of countries that depend on grain imports, my suggestion would be to put forward this assessment forum. If we don't act and make actions early enough in October a number of countries might be facing a very, very difficult situation with food security.
- The **high-level meeting to mark the 30th anniversary of Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National, Ethnic and Linguistic Minorities** will be convened in September as one of the first events to be convened on the margins of the 77th GA General Debate. It will offer us opportunities to address very serious questions.
- Reflections on **responsible state behavior in cyber space in the context of international security is also a mandated event.** It cannot be more relevant than now. It is the first time in our history when a war ground, air and sea operations are combined with full blown cyber warfare. We need to think and do something about it.
- Last but not least we have already discussed the **different angles of the SOTF.** As mentioned, in my understanding though it will be beyond the mandate of the 77th GA, but the preparatory process will mostly be done during the next year. **It will be one of the most weighty and most significant events in the years to come.**

- On the question from **Chile on beyond GDP**, we have been trying to deal with this question for many years. It is a part of the SDGs and the OCA and now it is time to seek solutions. The statistical community is working already for new indicators and the methodology to measure sustainable development. Some good results have been produced already and a number of countries – Australia, France, Germany, my country – have been doing work on that. We need to come together and see what should be the agreed science-based reliable and adaptable methodology on how to measure sustainable development. We can now measure many important details. We can measure the Human Development Index, GDP, natural capital, public health, the outputs of the educational system, but have difficulty answering a very simple question. Are we making progress on sustainable development transformation or not? Are we just transforming one type of capital to another type?
- **We cannot give account of the overall balance of the values capital of what we have in our societies. I think it is time that we further develop and ask support of science to give us a methodology to be discussed and used.** While our indicators and methodologies are partly answering the question, always retrospectively. We can tell how we did and what we did in terms of economy, conservation of nature, educating our children, but are we equipped with a tool to tell us that if we apply these policies, if we implement these investments, what would be the consequences on sustainable development transformation? We need that tool and we need the cooperation of all of you in order to be able to make the transition successful.
- **On intergenerational solidarity**, let me go back to the basics. When we agreed on the transformative agents of the SDGs, Paris Agreement, hopefully on the Biodiversity Convention, we tacitly know that these transformations require two types of social contracts. One among generations, because all of the decisions or lack of decisions will have great impact on the lives and possibilities of present and future generations. The responsibilities are there for our children. **The other type of social contract we need to make is among all stakeholders, it is among all of us** - politicians, governments, local governments, academia, civil society, faith-based organizations. If we have a basic understanding of where we would like to see this planet in 15, 20, 50 years time, if we have that basic contract, then we have a chance to make agreements on the basics. I would like to work to help do similar basic contracts among Member States in the GA. I know it is not an easy task. I know sometimes it is a very challenging issue, but you count on me. At least I will do my best to try building bridges in order to make transformation.

QUESTIONS BY CIVIL SOCIETY STAKEHOLDERS

UNIVERSAL ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION OF US

- We note that multilingualism is a founding principle of the UN and the SG has noted that it is a core value that helps to guarantee the effectiveness of our multilateral system. Communicating with civil society in languages that they understand is more important than ever. How will he advance multilingualism not only in the day to day work of the GA, but also in support of multilingual capacity building in the wider UN community?

BRAZILIAN NGO (VIDEO)

- In your vision statement you have mentioned that the consequences of unsustainable development are a risk to human security. Human security is deeply effected by climate change, posing a risk to the lives and livelihoods of millions of people around the world. Since environmental issues are a part of your agenda and also essential for the work of the UN, what would be your approach to make Member States treat climate change as a legitimate security concern and to commit with the same seriousness as a security threat?

DR. KANHAIYA TRIPATHI, FORMER OSD TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND ACADEMICIAN (VIDEO)

- The world is facing so many challenges with war. Is it possible to establish a commission for non-violence in the General Assembly? Thank you.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS UK (VIDEO)

- Your vision statement makes important points about the need for new approaches and in particular a greater focus on policy effectiveness and changing behaviors to make for a stronger, fairer and more sustainable future. As recognized in the Global Development Sustainable Report, culture plays a crucial role in this. Clearly, the delivery of cultural rights, in particular those of minority groups, is also an important goal in itself. Building on the work of your predecessors, how will you support efforts to recognize the role of culture in development and support its further integration into UN research and recommendations?

WORLD DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, CHINA (VIDEO)

- The Covid 19 pandemic has not only brought us unprecedented health threats, but now that we start to reopen gradually there is still an emerging psychological distress. What can the GA do under your leadership to raise awareness and tackle the impact on mental health issues for a healthy and better world we share?

RESPONSE BY AMBASSADOR CSABA KÖRÖSI

- You're speaking from my heart. Although I am not an Esperanto speaker, with your permission, I would like to ask you and your colleagues to come to consult. **I would like to take your advice on how Esperanto, not only as a language, but as a spirit of dealing with people**, different communities and different ideas can be better embedded into the work of the GA. I will count on your support and count on your advice.
- On the question from Brazil on climate change and security, we used to think of climate change in terms of natural phenomenon, in physical parameters, but very rarely think about how climate change is already taking more tolls on human lives than all the wars of the last 20 years. Climate change is already the number one reason why we are losing people, for spreading some diseases, threatening the existence of a number of our Member States. **Climate change is not a natural phenomenon any more. Climate change is a factor of core national security in all our countries.** In Glasgow it has been acknowledged and I truly believe in Sharm El-Sheikh it will be further emphasized. If I have the chance to address the public in Sharm El-Sheikh I will definitely make this point.
- In response to the Indian NGO, you're absolutely right that **peace with nature** is the shortest and more concise description of what we need to do in terms of securing the conditions of generations to come. Natural resources are being depleted, biodiversity is in decline. If we cannot make our lives within the frameworks of the renewable capacity of earth than we shall be in very big trouble. Let me join the SG that we need to make peace not only among ourselves, we also need to make peace with nature. It requires cooperation, technology, development, policy change and change of our behavior on a daily basis.
- To the question from the UK representative, on policy effectiveness and the culture of development. The question is right and timely. What we cherish and how we cherish is in the core of our culture. Sometimes we say very important things but we behave in a different way. Sometimes we learn in our childhood some basics of the culture but behave when we become adults in a different way. So when we talk about sustainability transformation, it is a transformation of our cultural approach as well. **I hope in 10 years time it will be considered an uncultured behavior to destroy nature, to diminish biodiversity and unacceptable to further pollute our environment.** We need to make more progress on education. It should be the time now to introduce sustainable development to be taught to our children in order to understand the methodology and perception of where we are, who we are and what should be the fate of this world.
- Many thanks for the question from the charming lady from China. There will be a forum to be convened very soon in Italy on the subject that you have raised on **mental health and Covid**. We need to take the outcome and recommendations from this conference to be discussed in this chamber. I fully agree that Covid is not only a health problem. **Covid is the first prototype of the Anthropocene era crisis.** When the health sector produced the first signs of crisis, we were facing dire consequences in our trade and supply chains. Economies started nosediving. The labor markets showed signs of crisis. In order to save the situation most of our governments started spending enormous money to boost the economies. It increased sovereign debts and now we have unprecedented levels of sovereign debts that will be difficult to see how it will be paid back. **Now we have more than 50 countries that are in the stage of bankruptcy. It is a perfect storm, it is a very complex crisis, but in the center of this crisis is the human being.** We are mostly the creator of this crisis and the ones suffering from the consequences of this crisis, not only in terms of general health and economy, but in our mental health as well. Let's keep our eyes on the event in Rome in the very near future and let's invite the results and the recommendations to be produced over there for our consideration.

FOURTH ROUND

MORROCO

- I would like to congratulate Ambassador Kőrösi for his presentation which is very comprehensive and clear. I would like to thank him on two counts. First for sharing his vision statement as early as February which has allowed us to examine it in detail and also for the Q&A session which was very interesting to us this morning. I would like to say to the ambassador that your priorities are in line with ours. They are also in line with the UN and correspond to the three pillars of the UN, especially with respect to human rights which is a top priority and must remain a global priority. As you said, there is also the issue of climate change. Just like you we hold great hope for the COP. You will be playing a leading role in mobilizing member states. Just like you we are also greatly interested in revitalizing the work of the GA. You will be leading on this issue and we are confident since you are very familiar with New York. You know the ins and outs of the UN. You also know where it is paralyzed, you know where we face difficulties with respect to financial resources.. So we are confident that under your leadership we will be able to move forward in our work.
- As for OCA, I would like to express satisfaction that we will have a discussion next year on OCA as a top priority for our work. We believe that there needs to be a continuation of the work done by the current President. We need to ensure continuity during your presidency because we believe the OCA will be a catalyst for the UN's work in the coming decades. We need to not just have a fact-based inclusive discussion, but what we also need is for it to be accelerated. Unfortunately, the current global situation has slowed our discussion on OCA because we have experienced other issues, we have had different priorities. We hope that during your presidency that international relations will improve and the context at the GA will be more suitable for continuing the work that has already begun. We especially need to focus on bringing it to a conclusion as well. In this context I wanted to ask you, **do you have a vision as to how you can speed up discussions of OCA** that we can bring it to an end to have a concrete result which would then serve as an appropriate and acceptable roadmap accepted by all member states.
- **My second question has to do with Covid.** You spoke very eloquently about the urgent situation we are facing. You expressed your concern about the consequences for countries that are facing bankruptcy in the coming months. I hope that this will not transpire, but I wanted to ask, what do you plan on doing to build an international alliance?. In the history of the UN we have never seen a vaccine that has been created in little as six months. This was made possible by science and technology, but also by political commitment and the financial resources that were dedicated to this. But we have a problem. Having the vaccine is one thing, vaccinating everybody is another. We are saddened by the fact in Africa only about 5 percent of the population has been vaccinated while in the Global North vaccines are thrown out after they reach their expiration date. We must condemn this kind of injustice because as long as this virus is with us it know no borders. All of us are still facing the consequences of the variances and rising infection rates in many countries around the world.

- We are eight years away from 2030. All of us know that we are lagging behind on achieving the SDGs. As you have just stated, countries are not just facing the issue of implementing the SDGs, but failing to implement them. What will you do to remobilize the international community, especially the UN? **What will you do to push countries to fulfill their commitments that they took on in Addis Ababa?**
- My last question has to do with the task force that you said you will create. Will there be a special theme that the task force will be working on? How will this structure within your office function?

KIRIBATI

- I want to say thank you, for sharing your vision. We very much support you and we thank the current President and leadership, they are doing their best. **The view that we're getting from many out there is that the UN is failing, the fact that the war could not be prevented,** the fact that one country is invading another, going on for 60 or 70 days. They say, you ambassadors are failing. Russia was there surrounding a small country for many months, nothing was done. Now what are you trying to do? Resolution after resolution, what is the point when one country is not listening to the rest. Can we do more for a crisis like this? Not only for Ukraine, we have Myanmar, we have countries in the Middle East suffering, calling out to God and the UN. More task forces, consultants, envoys yet nothing done for people on the ground. How do you see the future of these humanitarian crises created by human beings like ourselves?
- My second point is about the small countries. We are a very peaceful people in the Pacific, we don't cause trouble in the world. When there is trouble we solve it in a small way, we don't need the UN to help us. We watch the world and also want the world to help us. **We are saving the ocean, trying to save biodiversity, to feed the world. What is the UN and global world doing to help us?** As SIDS, the world is not hearing or seeing us concerning climate change caused by big corporations thinking only about profits, not human life. How do you deal with that and make sure that our bigger brothers and sisters make a change, get closer to nature, not use so much carbon to survive? We have some scientists from the Pacific able to help you, we would like to see them as members of the scientific task force.

UNITED KINGDOM

- **Firstly, we welcome your vision, in particular the plan to take forward the work that has been done so far led by the PGA on the OCA and SOTF**, and we look forward to being a strong part of that. Secondly, we particularly welcome your focus on impact oriented consultations **including the involvement of civil society** as we have seen today. We are big fans of inclusive multilateralism, this has been a good example of that, long may it continue. Third, you talked passionately about the **importance of science in our work** and nowhere is that work more important than on sustainable development, climate and biodiversity. As we pass the baton on COP to our Egyptian colleagues we look forward to the baton being picked up by you again from the leadership of the PGA has shown us this year. Fourthly, **want to commend your remarks on the conflict in Ukraine** and the important role that the GA plays in upholding the Charter. We have had three very significant debates and votes in the last couple of months condemning Russia's invasion, urging humanitarian response and addressing the human rights violations there. The role of the GA in that including under the new initiative by Liechtenstein on the veto is going to remain important, not only for this conflict but for other conflicts from around the world. We welcome your commitment to stand up for the Charter in your work.

JAPAN

- **Firstly, we welcome your vision, in particular the plan to take forward the work that has been done so far led by the PGA on the OCA and SOTF**, and we look forward to being a strong part of that. Secondly, we particularly welcome your focus on impact oriented consultations **including the involvement of civil society** as we have seen today. We are big fans of inclusive multilateralism, this has been a good example of that, long may it continue. Third, you talked passionately about the **importance of science in our work** and nowhere is that work more important than on sustainable development, climate and biodiversity. As we pass the baton on COP to our Egyptian colleagues we look forward to the baton being picked up by you again from the leadership of the PGA has shown us this year. Fourthly, **want to commend your remarks on the conflict in Ukraine** and the important role that the GA plays in upholding the Charter. We have had three very significant debates and votes in the last couple of months condemning Russia's invasion, urging humanitarian response and addressing the human rights violations there. The role of the GA in that including under the new initiative by Liechtenstein on the veto is going to remain important, not only for this conflict but for other conflicts from around the world. We welcome your commitment to stand up for the Charter in your work.

UAE

- There have been many questions already about the SDGs but wanted to hear your thoughts on **where do you think Agenda 2030 will end up by 2030? What might be some lessons for an eventual preparation for a post-2030 Agenda?**

RESPONSE BY AMBASSADOR CSABA KÖRÖSI

- Some of the distinguished representatives have asked what this task force would mean? Where would this additional unit or team be located? Let me make it clear, it is not something extra, not something plus more people. **The whole office will be working in a task force methodology, it is a methodology not a unit.** It is a methodology that allows us on a compulsory basis when we address each question, it should be addressed from each angle, from the point of view of climate change, sustainable transformation, human rights, international security, disarmament, finances. If we have that picture all together then we can have a say on the subject. Any partial approach to complex issues might be too dangerous now when we are already in a phase of crisis. I hope the results might be convincing enough for you to think in terms of addressing those complex issues we are going to deal with in the next year to try to embrace at least some of the methods that we will try to show to you.
- **On the implementation of the OCA,** I fully agree and hear you, and my friends from civil society, to let's speed up and go ahead, we fully understand you. Everything that is humanly possible will be supported and done in the OPGA. Let's take logical steps. **Let's see first what is the compilation of suggestions and lessons learned after the 5 rounds of debates in the GA.** When we see that we can plan, we can plan the process. We can decide what are the issues that should be decided upon in the GA, what are the issues that should be clearly left to the SG and the secretariat for their implementation, and where are those issues where the GA can help the process to move forward. I fully agree with you that there is no more time to waste.
- On the Covid, bankruptcy and unequal distribution of the vaccines. I fully agree that it is an unacceptable situation, that in one continent the vaccination rate is so low that it will be a constant potential birthplace of new variants and it is a cause also of further suffering for those countries that are already vulnerable. I'm fully aware that you have discussed this question already, that you have made your suggestions in the GA as well. Let's go back to make sure those suggestions are implemented. When it is done let's see what the next step will be.
- On where we shall be with Agenda 2030 by 2030, I'm not sure if I have good news for you now. If we give an account where we are now roughly at half way on more than half of the SDGs mostly related to the natural capital and natural resources, we are further away from the goals than we were in 2015. On some human resource and social capital related issues, if we could discount the impact of Covid, unfortunately we cannot, we would have made progress. I am afraid if we don't change the methodology a little bit by 2030, we shall be far away from the goals that we have set for ourselves.
- I have suggested already that **we need an improved methodology on how to evaluate development in terms of sustainability transformation,** and even more on how to assist our future decisions on policies and investments. Let me also suggest that in some of our countries, **some central banks have included into their charter the obligation of assisting sustainable development inside their country,** to transform the financial system of the given country. The club of these central banks is about 102. Those who have really incorporated this principle into their charter and are doing it are less than 20. **What about if we were to invite those governors of central banks who are doing it on a daily basis, to give us an insight on what has succeeded?** What were their experiences and successes? What do they think should be changed in their own practices or there might be some lessons learned and benefits for us to take home.

- **On the implementation of the Addis Ababa protocol**, yes, it is clear that many of the promises have not been implemented yet fully. Some improvements on providing assistance could be seen in the last couple of years, though the pandemic was not helpful in that regard either. But the Addis Ababa protocol is speaking about the internal obligations of our countries as well. So let's take both of them when we consider how to improve the financial flows for sustainable transformation. On this issue we recently had a debate on this chamber, let's take the lessons learned from that debate and move on to implement what has been decided upon.
- Many thanks for the remarks from Kiribati. **The UN is regarded in this way in many countries in the street by civil society.** The UN was created to secure three major issues in 1945. To make sure that peace and security will prevail in the world, that human rights will be honored and implemented, and that development will be coordinated and assisted in the world. **We are not too successful in peace and security. We have progressed on human rights implementation but we are still not there, far from it. The avenue where the UN is definitely playing a central role is sustainable development and development in the broader term**, not only providing assistance which is very important, but in changing the course of development to make sure that our children will have the same opportunities and options to choose what we had and what our parents had. Now that is not the case.
- On the concrete question from Japan on **how to pick co-facilitators**. I have never seen a detailed description in this house on these rules. There is a common wisdom that I can share with you what I learned in my unfortunately long career in diplomacy. When we have a very complex question to be facilitated by ambassadors in order to convene countries from different walks of life and interests, facilitators are needed with vast experience, broad acceptance in the UN community, who have the capability to reach out, and who have good records. I think there are many, many good candidates among the present ambassadors. I don't know all of them yet, but I know many that are ready, excellent and capable to do the job.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **UN Web TV:** [video of 77th PGA candidate dialogue](#)
- **Letter from PGA:** [PGA77 Informal Interactive Dialogue](#)
- **Bio, Vision Statement, Opening Statement:** [PGA Website on PGA77 Election](#)

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