



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2 June 2006

Excellency,

One of the most important issues for the United Nations this year will be the selection of the next Secretary-General. I know that all of you take a strong interest in the process of securing the best possible candidate for the post.

The United Nations Charter, in article 97, assigns different roles to the Security Council and the General Assembly in the selection of the Secretary-General. While respecting these roles, we need to strive for a more open and transparent selection process.

Since the month of March, I have been briefed by the President of the Security Council on the status of their consultations. I have informed you about these briefings through the Co-Chairs for the Ad Hoc Working Group on the revitalization of the General Assembly or the Chairmen of the Regional Groups.

I have today received a letter from Ambassador Ellen Margrethe Løj, President of the Security Council for the month of June 2006, on the matter of the selection of the Secretary-General. Please find a copy attached.

I will continue to keep you informed about my meetings with the President of the Security Council on this important matter.

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


Jan Eliasson

All the Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

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THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
LE PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL DE SECURITE

2 June 2006

Dear Mr. President,

The Charter gives important roles to the Security Council and the General Assembly regarding one of the most essential decisions for the United Nations, the selection of the Secretary-General.

The Security Council is committed to working closely with the General Assembly on this important matter, in a spirit of transparency and dialogue.

In this spirit, and following up on your conversation with the President of the Security Council on 18 April, I wish to inform you that the Security Council intends to start in early July the process of consideration of candidacies which will have been presented to its President by a member State. As in the past, a member State may present candidates, nationals and/or non-nationals of that State, at any stage of the process.

The President of the Security Council will continue, on behalf of all members, to keep you informed, and through you the membership at large, of developments in the process within the Council.

I look forward to meeting you in the coming days to exchange views on this important issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen Margrethe Løj".

Ellen Margrethe Løj
President of the Security Council

His Excellency
Mr. Jan Eliasson
President of the General Assembly

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THE PRESIDENT OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY