

9:55 – 11:00 a.m.

Programme of work of the 77th session of the General Assembly

Presented by: Mr. Kenji Nakano, Chief, General Assembly Affairs Branch, General Assembly and ECOSOC Affairs Division, DGACM



Franz Joseph I
No Inscription
Type 1 (Lithographed)
1871



Crown of St. Stephen
Inscribed Magyar Kir Posta
Type 3
1874-1876
1881



General Assembly Affairs Branch

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To the Fourth
Committee

Cristina Pacheco
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For specific questions, see below:

- Elections - Mr. Wannes Lint, lint@un.org and Mr. Rommel Maranan, maranan@un.org
- List of speakers - Mr. Carlos Galindo, galindo@un.org
- Programme of work - Ms. Sangeeta Sharma, sharma7@un.org
- Submission of proposals - Mr. Wannes Lint, lint@un.org

1. **77th session from Tuesday, 13 September 2022.** Basic information in the daily Journal (copied in the box below). The session is expected to **close on Tuesday, 5 September 2023**, by 1 p.m.

(Journal/General Information/ General Assembly: seventy-sixth session)

The seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly **will commence** at United Nations Headquarters on Tuesday, 13 September 2022.

The **provisional agenda** of the seventy-seventh regular session of the General Assembly is contained in document A/77/150.

The **annotated preliminary** list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-seventh regular session of the General Assembly is contained in document A/77/100.

The **list of supplementary items** proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly is contained in document A/77/200.

A **draft programme of the work** of the plenary for the seventy-seventh session is contained in document A/76/903.

The **information note** for delegations on the arrangements for high-level meetings and the general debate of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly was issued in document A/INF/77/4.

Seating protocol for the seventy-sixth session

On Tuesday, 7 June 2022, the name of **Belize** was drawn from among Member States to occupy the first seat in the General Assembly Hall at the seventy-seventh session. Consequently, the delegation of Belize will sit at the first desk at the right of the President, and the other countries will follow in the English alphabetical order. The same order will be observed in the Main Committees.

General Debate

The general debate will **open** on Tuesday, 20 September 2022 (A/INF/77/1).

The **provisional list of speakers** for the general debate (20 to 24 and 26 September 2022) was sent to the permanent missions on 18 July 2022.

Delegations are kindly reminded that, in accordance with established practice, each statement in the general debate **should be limited to 15 minutes** in order to accommodate speakers for each meeting in a timely fashion. The list of speakers for each meeting is built on this voluntarily agreed time limit.

The **theme** “A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges” has been proposed for the general debate at the seventy-seventh session, pursuant to General

Assembly resolution 58/126, Annex (A letter from the President of the General Assembly, dated 29 June 2022, was sent to all permanent representatives and permanent observers).

2. First week

Monday, 12 September (11:30 a.m.) (Closing of the 76th session will include the statements by the SG and the outgoing PGA, one minute of silent prayer or meditation, the oath of office of PGA-77 and the hand-over of the gavel)¹

Resolution 70/305, OP 57: “Decides that the President-elect of the General Assembly shall take an oath of office of his or her own, as detailed in annex I to the present resolution, at the moment of handing over the gavel in the final plenary meeting of the preceding session, and decides that the text of the oath shall be annexed to the rules of procedure of the Assembly”

Annex 1 – Oath of Office:

“I solemnly declare that I shall truthfully perform my duties and exercise the functions entrusted to me as President of the General Assembly of the United Nations in all loyalty, discretion and conscience, and that I shall discharge these functions and regulate my conduct with the interest of the United Nations only in view and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the code of ethics for the President of the General Assembly, without seeking or accepting any instruction in regard to the performance of my duties from any Government or other source external to the Organization”.

Tuesday, 13 September (3 p.m.) (Opening meeting (30 minutes in 2021; 15 minutes in 2020; 20 minutes in 2019; 30 minutes in 2018; 15 minutes in 2017; 25 minutes in 2015; 10 minutes in 2016 as PGA-71 did not make a statement)) to cover the declaration of the opening of the session, Minute of silent prayer or meditation; PGA statement; SG statement; Taking note of a letter from the SG addressed to the PGA on Member States in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the UN within the terms of Article 19 of the Charter; Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee.²

Wednesday, 14 September (10 a.m.) (General Committee; 85 minutes in 2021³; 90 minutes in 2020⁴; 65 minutes in 2019⁵; 135 minutes in 2018⁶; 135 minutes in 2017⁷; 55 minutes in 2016; 50 minutes in 2015)

Four new items have been requested so far in A/77/150 and A/77/200 (two on observer status):

¹ The closing of the previous session lasted 35 minutes.

² Last year, the General Assembly appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following Member States: the Bahamas, Bhutan, Chile, China, Namibia, the Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sweden and the United States of America.

³ Vote on the Ukraine item at the 76th session.

⁴ No vote at the 75th session.

⁵ No vote at the 74th session.

⁶ Vote on the Ukraine and R2P items at the 73rd session.

⁷ Vote on the R2P item at the 72nd session.

Observer Status for the Digital Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly [item proposed by Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Rwanda and Saudi Arabia] (A/77/141).

Election of a member of the International Court of Justice [sub-item proposed by the SG] (A/77/142).

Observer status for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization in the General Assembly [item proposed by Bolivia (Plurinational State of)] (A/77/191).

Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit [sub-item proposed by the SG] (A/77/192).

The Chair (PGA) normally does not participate in the vote. Can we also have "Chair" NOT appear on the voting screen?

GC informal meeting on 7 September

GC will make recommendation on the inclusion and allocation of agenda items, to be contained in its first report (A/77/250) to be issued on Thursday, 15 September.

Friday, 16 September (10 a.m.) (2nd plenary meeting to consider the first report of the General Committee; 45 minutes in 2021⁸; 65 minutes in 2020⁹; 75 minutes in 2019¹⁰; 165 minutes in 2018¹¹; 125 minutes in 2017¹²; 55 minutes in 2016; 35 minutes in 2015; 3 hours and 10 minutes in the 61st session)

3. High-level week (more information in A/INF/77/4, as mentioned earlier)

General Debate (20 to 26 September, except on Sunday, 25 September) and (1) High-level meeting to mark the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (Wednesday, 21 September); and (2) High-level plenary meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (Monday, 26 September). Separately, (3) the Secretary-General will be holding (a) SDG Moment (Monday, 19 September); and (b) Transforming Education Summit (Monday, 19 September).

4. The remainder of the main part of the session

(1) Debates on agenda items considered directly by the plenary will proceed based on A/76/903. Please let us know, once the session begins, when we can proceed to announce these dates (the programme will be then posted and regularly updated on the GA website). Most of the plenary

⁸ Vote on the Ukraine item at the 76th session.

⁹ Vote on the R2P item at the 75th session.

¹⁰ Vote on the R2P item at the 74th session.

¹¹ Vote on the Ukraine and R2P items at the 73rd session.

¹² Vote on the R2P item at the 72nd session.

items are scheduled to be considered during the main part, while a few others are for the resumed part, as listed at the end of the programme, including the election of the Security Council and ECOSOC members. The report of the Security Council will also be considered during the resumed part.

Draft programme of work of the plenary for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly

First week (13–16 September)

Tuesday, 13 September, p.m.	Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly [1] ¹³
	Minute of silent prayer or meditation [2]
	Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee [3 (a)]
Wednesday, 14 September	Meeting of the General Committee
Friday, 16 September	Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: first report of the General Committee [7]

Second week (19–23 September)

Tuesday, 20 September, to Saturday, 24 September	General debate [8] ¹⁴
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Third week (26–30 September)

Monday, 26 September	General debate [8]
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [118 (e)]

Fourth week (3–7 October)

¹³ Items and their numbers cited herein are from the provisional agenda of the seventy-seventh session ([A/77/150](#)). All items are pending approval by the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session for their inclusion in the agenda and allocation for consideration. Some items that are on the provisional agenda but not reflected in this draft programme are omitted either in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly or for scheduling at a later date.

¹⁴ As the first item before the opening of the general debate, the Secretary-General will present his report on the work of the Organization.

Wednesday, 5 October

*Yom Kippur*¹⁵

Fifth week (10–14 October)

[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Monday, 10 October

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [13]; Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [121]; Strengthening of the United Nations system [127 (a) and (b)]: *joint debate*

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Tuesday, 11 October

Election of members of the Human Rights Council [118 (c)]

Sixth week (17–21 October)

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Wednesday, 19 October

International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals [130]

[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]

Thursday, 20 October

1. **Report of the Economic and Social Council** [9]; Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [13]: *joint debate*
2. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [121]: specific meeting focused on development (resolution [60/265](#))

Seventh week (24–28 October)

Monday, 24 October

*Diwali*⁴

[Disarmament]

Wednesday, 26 October

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [90]

[Promotion of justice and international law]

Thursday, 27 October

Report of the International Court of Justice [71]

¹⁵ 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 this holiday.

Eighth week (31 October–4 November)

Monday, 31 October

[Promotion of justice and international law]

Report of the International Criminal Court [72]

Tuesday, 1 November

[Promotion of human rights]

Report of the Human Rights Council [64]

Wednesday, 2 November, and Thursday,
3 November

[Maintenance of international peace and security]

Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba [37]

Friday, 4 November

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Election of a member of the International Court of Justice [item 117 (c)]

Ninth week (7–11 November)

Monday, 7 November

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations [124]; Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [125]: *joint debate*

Tuesday, 8 November

*Gurpurab*⁴

[Maintenance of international peace and security]

Thursday, 10 November

The situation in Afghanistan [35]

Friday, 11 November

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

1. Election of members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination [118 (a)]
2. Election of members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission [118 (b)]
3. Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences [119 (f)]
4. Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal [119 (g)]
5. Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal [119 (h)]

Tenth week (14–18 November)

Monday, 14 November

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council [126]

Eleventh week (21–25 November)

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Monday, 21 November

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations [128 (a) to (aa)]

Thursday, 24 November

Official United Nations holiday (Thanksgiving)

Twelfth week (28 November–2 December)

[Maintenance of international peace and security]

Wednesday, 30 November

1. Question of Palestine [34]

2. The situation in the Middle East [33]

[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]

Thursday, 1 December

Sport for development and peace [11]

Thirteenth week (5–12 December)

[Organizational, administrative and other matters]

Monday, 5 December

Global health and foreign policy [129]

[Promotion of justice and international law]

Tuesday, 6 December

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [70 (a) to (d)]

[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]

Wednesday, 7 December

Culture of peace [14]

[Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts]

Thursday, 8 December, and Friday, 9 December

Oceans and the law of the sea [73 (a) and (b)]; commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (resolution [76/72](#))

(12 December: end of 13 weeks)

**Plenary items scheduled for consideration during the main part of the session
on a date to be determined**

Report of the Credentials Committee [3 (b)]

Appointment of members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns [119 (i)]

2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa [12]; New Partnership for Africa’s Development: progress in implementation and international support [63 (a) and (b)]; *joint debate*

Plenary items currently not scheduled for consideration during the main part of the session

Election of the President of the General Assembly [4]

Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly [6]

Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS [10]

Report of the Security Council [27]

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission [28]; Peacebuilding and sustaining peace [60]; Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund [115]; *joint debate*

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict [29]

Prevention of armed conflict [30 (a) and (b)]

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development [31]

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia – residual functions [89]

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [114]

Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations [116]

Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council [117 (a)]¹⁶

Election of members of the Economic and Social Council [117 (b)]⁵

Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme [118 (d)]

Commemoration of the abolition of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade [123]: commemorative meeting of the General Assembly to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him [131]

Sexual exploitation and abuse: implementing a zero-tolerance policy [132]

The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity [134]

Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets [135]

¹⁶

The General Assembly, in its resolution [68/307](#), decided to conduct the elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, beginning at the seventieth session.

Plenary items not yet scheduled for consideration during the seventy-seventh session, as their inclusion in the draft agenda of the seventy-seventh session is subject to any action that the Assembly may take on them at its seventy-sixth session

Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic [32]

The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine [61]

Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965 [88]

International cooperation on access to justice for survivors of sexual violence [133]

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- (2) A debate will consist of (a) PGA/SG statements, if applicable, and (b) statements by Member States and observers (115 observers are listed in A/INF/77/3). Statements would begin with the introduction of any proposal under the item ("L documents"),¹⁷ followed by group statements and national statements.
- (3) After the debate, the GA will take action on any proposal ready for action, to be adopted as a resolution or a decision. Explanation of votes can be made by those who are not sponsors (rule 88). If there is a proposal to be submitted after the conclusion of the debate, all that it takes is for the delegation concerned to inform GAAB. GAAB will then leave the item open.
- (4) Main Committee reports to be considered in December. The PGA is normally invited by all Main Committees to make a statement in October.
- (5) Also, a one-day preparatory meeting for the Water Conference (resolution 75/212; 25 October), a briefing time on 13 June 2022 by Special Envoy on Myanmar to report to Member States every six months (*not automatically under the GA; last held on 13 June* (resolution 75/238)

5. Resumed part

- (1) Formal plenary meetings on remaining items or additional proposals (no pre-established calendar)
- (2) Thematic debates held by PGA, some of which may be mandated by a GA resolution (PGA letter of 16 May 2022- see right)
- (3) Briefings by SG, etc.
- (4) Informal consultation processes: examples of anticipated processes

Early 2023	Informal briefing on the Group of 20 (A/Res/71/327) ¹
21 March 2023	Commemorative meeting for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination ²
22-24 March 2023	United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028 (A/Res/75/212)
25 March 2023	Commemorative meeting to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (A/Res/70/7) ¹
By April 2023	Informal interactive hearing with indigenous peoples (A/Res/71/321 and decision 76/560).
May 2023	Informal interactive dialogue with the candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly (A/Res/71/323) ¹

18-19 May 2023	High-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework (A/Res/76/204)
May/June	Pledging Conference for Development Activities (A/Res/45/125 and decision 75/511B) ¹
By end of June 2023	Interactive multi-stakeholder hearing on universal health coverage (A/Res/75/315)
29 August 2023	High-level plenary meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day against Nuclear Tests (A/Res/72/51) ¹
On or around 13 September 2023	High-Level Forum on a Culture of Peace ²
During 77 th session	One-day high-level interactive dialogue on Culture and Sustainable Development (A/Res/76/214)
During 77 th session	Meeting on the gaps and challenges of middle-income countries in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (A/Res/76/215)

¹⁷ Resolution 52/250, Annex "The additional rights through the following modalities, without prejudicing draft resolutions and decisions on Palestinian and put to a vote only upon request from a Member S

- (more expected to be mandated by resolutions adopted during the main part of the session):
- (a) SC reform
 - (b) Ad-hoc WG on GA revitalization

(5) Note that, throughout the session, there is only one interpretation team on any given business day (and business hours). While many informal consultations are now held online without interpretation, parallel meetings should equally be avoided as much as possible in light of difficulties faced by small delegations. OPGA coordination of different consultations processes led by facilitators remains critically important in this regard.

6. Other references

- A Practical Guide to the work of the President of the General Assembly
- Delegate's Handbook (FAQ section)
- GA Handbook
(https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/mission-new-york/en/documents/UN_GA_Final.pdf)
- General Committee manual

7. Terminology

“Session”; “emergency special session” <-> meetings

President/Chair

Agenda/ programme/ calendar

Amend/revise

Vote/ action

8. Others

Votes/amendments on PGA proposals

PGA statements to be made from the podium

Important to have a single OPGA focal point with GAAB