

## **H.E. DENNIS FRANCIS**

**PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE 78<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

---

---

27 July 2023

Excellency,

In recognizing the key role that young people play in our aspirations for achieving sustainable development, I am pleased to inform you that the President of the General Assembly Fellowship Programme will be continued during the seventy-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly. It is my view that this great initiative, which commenced during the 76th session provides a unique opportunity to promote youth engagement while nurturing the next generation of diplomats.

During its two years, the Fellowship Programme has brought together a small group of dedicated young professionals from LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS for a 9-month fellowship in New York. The Fellowship gives young diplomats a unique opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge of the United Nations by providing an extensive overview of the functioning of the Organization and by incorporating practical work experience in the Programme. In addition to participating in the training sessions organized and executed by United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), these young professionals gain invaluable experience as members of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

The forthcoming third edition of the Fellowship Programme will take into account the experiences from the previous sessions to build on the Programme's success over the last two years. A provisional budget for the Fellowship Programme has been developed in order to cover, inter alia, training, living expenses and a monthly stipend for the selected participants.

It is envisaged that the selection process for the next group of fellows will commence at the beginning of the seventy-eighth session, with the intention that the Fellows will begin the Programme in New York not later than January 2024.

In view of the foregoing, I would like to kindly request the valuable support of Member States to assist in the continuation of this highly productive initiative. In this regard, Member States who wish to do so, may make their contribution earmarked specifically for the Fellowship Programme to the Trust Fund.

Further details about the Fellowship Programme may be obtained by contacting the Transition Team at [ttpm.un@gmail.com](mailto:ttpm.un@gmail.com).

I look forward to continuing this Fellowship Programme, which has been demonstrated to add value to the effectiveness of the Office of President of the General Assembly and by extension, the United Nations while nurturing the development of competent future diplomats.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deane L...', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

President-elect of the  
78<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly

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