Travel

“Bringing the UN closer to the people it serves”

Mariyam Midhfa Naeem, Deputy CDC, OPGA76
Taking the decision to travel...

- **Mandates** – for example, UN conferences outside of HQ might have procedural elements involving the PGA

- **Invitations** – countries will invite the PGA to visit. This could be because a country is celebrating a milestone in their engagement with the UN, bilateral consideration, or alignment with priorities

- **Determining the “why”** – PGA is required to be there. A PGA visit could bring spotlight on initiatives related to UN processes. They might be aligned with a priority of the PGA.

- **Travel Schedule** – advance planning as much as possible, around meetings and other engagements
Once the decision is taken...

• A trip captain is decided
• What needs to be decided – Funding details, the delegation,
• Coordination – Memo to DGACM, creation of Event ID in Umoja, Assigning DSS Officer, Notification to the Mission,
• Logistics – Flights, Hotels, DSA, Visas, Vaccination, Airport Courtesies, On-ground transportation,
• Programme - discussed, usually in consultation with host and UNCT, priorities in mind
• Communications – Media kit, Interviews, Op-eds, Communication materials (tweets, readouts, photos, videos)
Useful tips

• Maintain close relationship with UNCT on ground (if bilateral), and organisers (if multilateral). They can advise you on the dos and don’ts and support in liaising with the Government.

• A mix of formal and informal engagements, including visits to projects, meetings with civil society, and/or other stakeholders, as per interests and priorities of the PGA.

• Be prepared for anything (COVID, technical problems on flight, lost luggage, not having the right dress), be flexible and open minded. Have a plan B in case things don’t work out.

• Do as much as you can in advance. (Readouts, tweets, twitter handles).

• Trips can be taxing, but they will be some of the best memories.