

**Transition Workshop for the 77th Office
of the President of the General
Assembly**

**Human Rights, Humanitarian and
Social Affairs**

31 August 2022

UNHQ – CR-7

OPGA 76 Human Rights Team



Topics to be discussed

- Mains tasks of Human Rights Team
- Main High-level meetings and events UNGA76
- Commemorative meetings
- Preparation for High-level meetings
- Main upcoming High-level meetings – UNGA77
- Work of the Third Committee
- Human Rights Council
- Other key issues: OCA – Youth – Disability and accessibility, engagement with CSO

Respecting the rights of all is one of the priorities of PGA for 76th session – Fourth Ray of Hope for the Presidency of Hope

The promotion and protection of Human Rights is a key purpose and guiding principle of the United Nations and is dutifully a key priority of the PGA.



Presidency
of Hope

76th session of the
UN General Assembly

Main tasks of HR Team

- Support and raise awareness of the work of the President of the General Assembly related to Human Rights affairs
- Create opportunities for dialogue that support the implementation of programmes and policies to advance human rights agenda.
- Coordinate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the mandates assigned to OPGA related to human rights.
- Collaborate with Member States, civil society, academic institutions, the private sector and other stakeholders on the overall work of the General Assembly pertaining to broader human rights issues.



List of main Meetings

- *High-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (A/RES/75/237) **22 September***
- *High-level meeting on the Global Plan of Action on Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/74/176) - **22-23 November 2021***
- Commemorative meeting for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/RES/75/237) - **18 March 2022**
- Commemorative meeting to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (A/RES/70/7) - **29 March 2022**
- High-level Debate of the General Assembly on “Enhancing youth mainstreaming in crime prevention policies” (A/RES/76/187) - **6 June 2022**
- Informal high-level meeting to mark the commemoration of the first International Day for Countering Hate Speech (A/RES/75/309) - **18 June 2022**
- Nelson Mandela International Day - **18 July 2022**





Other events and initiatives

- **World AIDS Day (1st December)** PGA convened an Informal Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to mark the 2021 World AIDS Day under the theme “End Inequalities. End AIDS. End Pandemics”.
- Informal meeting of the plenary to commemorate the **50th anniversary of the United Nations Volunteers Programme and the 20th anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers** (2 December 2021)
- **World Press Freedom Day (3 May)** Joint statement of PGA, president of the Human Rights Council and President of UNESCO General Conference was issued (*Presidents of the main entities in the UN invested with the mandate to protect and promote freedom of expression, press freedom and safety of journalists*)
- The Three Presidents also signed the preface of a UNESCO publication on “*The Universal Periodic Review (UPR): model recommendations in the field of freedom of expression, safety of journalists and access to information: guidance note for Member States*”

Commemorative Meetings

PGA

SG or the delegated official by the SG

Keynote speaker (*mandated by the resolution or invited by PGA*)

Chairs of Regional Groups

Host Country (US)

Interested Member States (*time permitting*)



Organization of Meetings

- **Preparatory steps:** Coordination with DGACM and UN substantive Office (*save the date to all Member States and Observers, invitations to SG and keynote speakers, Concept Note in collaboration with relevant UN entities, Tentative Programme, etc.*)
- **Format:** *opening segment, General Debate or Panel discussion(s) and closing segment – Outcome of the meeting (Summary of the President if mandated)*
- **Selection of keynote speakers and panelists:** added value and contribute to have impact-oriented discussions and provide solutions, taking into consideration gender and *regional balance*
- **CSO participation:** ECOSOC accredited / Non-ECOSOC accredited (non-objection basis)
- **Communications and branding materials:**
- **Logistics** (Ground passes, Protocol and seating arrangements, etc.)

**Main
collaborative
partners**

OHCHR

UNODC

Office of the
President of the
Human Rights
Council

UNESCO

DESA

UNAIDS

8th Holhuashi Dialogue on Accessibility to the UNHQ

Objective

- Discuss how the General Assembly can further address accessibility to UNHQ and further enhance the awareness of staff with respect to disability inclusion and accessibility (*Morning dialogues or informal exchanges with PRs GA Resolution 72/ 313 on the Revitalization of the GA*)
- **Outcome**
 - on 9 June 2022, OPGA organized with DGACM a training session on accessibility and sensitivity awareness for all UN delegates and staff.
 - Reparation and operationalization of the Accessibility gate at the UNHQ
 - A summary of the informal discussion is circulated to Member States



Mandated meetings for GA77

- 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 (A/RES/76/168) – 21 September 2022
- High-level event for the launch of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. (A/RES/75/168) – By early December
- Commemorative meeting for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Mandated by annual resolutions of the General Assembly) – 21 March
- Commemorative meeting to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (A/RES/70/7) – 25 March
- Informal interactive hearing with indigenous peoples (A/RES/71/321 and decision 76/560) – April 2023
- Nelson Mandela Day – 18 July

Third Committee – Role of PGA

The Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) considers issues relating to the world social situation including on youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and the family.

- PGA addresses the opening of the third Committee
- OPGA focal point for the 3C follows the discussions and process of negotiation of resolutions and keep PGA informed of the developments, including mandates arising
- PGA may assist in facilitating a process when required
- The President of the HRC addresses the 3C and the GA - PGA delivers a statement at the GA plenary meeting
- Informal Meeting with CSOs – PGA is invited as keynote speaker

The Human Rights Council

- Ensuring synergy between New York and Geneva
- PGA meets with the President of the Human Rights Council (President of the 16th cycle of the HRC is Ambassador Federico Villegas of Argentina)
- PGA delivers a statement at the presentation of the HRC report to the GA by the President of the HRC in October
- PGA addresses the High-level Segment of the March Session of the HRC in Geneva



Other key issues

OCA (Thematic discussions with MS, UN system and Stakeholders)

Youth (Voices of Youth – Time Capsule)

Disability and accessibility

Engagement with CSO







