

17 May 2001

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Harri Holkeri,  
President of the 55th Session of the General Assembly,  
at a Informal/informals of the Plenary on revitalization of the  
General Assembly - Improving the efficiency of the General Assembly**

We have had a very good and constructive discussion and I would like to thank all delegations for their contribution. This shows that there is willingness to move forward in this process.

I was very pleased to note that there is an overall support to the approach taken in the non-paper and the support for the urgent implementation of existing resolutions in particular 51/242. We have taken due note of all comments and the very useful suggestions made for its improvement.

It is my intention to continue consultations together with Ambassador Valdés. The discussion has been very useful in showing where we need to have more intensive consultations and interaction with Member states.

In order to facilitate our task I would like to ask for your co-operation in the following manner:

Concerning the streamlining the agenda I would like to invite delegations to take a serious look at the agenda and come forward in the coming days with possible suggestions to me and Ambassador Valdés on where we could make progress in this regard.

In particular I would like to ask the main sponsors, be they countries or groups of countries to indicate to us whether any of those items that had been listed in the non-paper for possible biennialization or triennialization or clustering could be considered in this context. Or whether there are some other items that could be considered in this regard.

I should add that we would of course appreciate all other suggestions on how we could move forward on this issue.

Together with Ambassador Valdés we will try to improve the non-paper so that next time when we meet we can start to look at the areas where we might take concrete action in revitalizing and making the General Assembly more efficient.

Once again I would like to assure Member States that I will continue to work in full transparency and openness in order to keep the whole membership involved.

Finally let me end with a positive note that I have sensed in our discussions: we all share the common goal - to enable the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policy-making and

representative body of the UN to play its role effectively. You have showed that there is political will to move toward this goal.