



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

15 March 2017

Excellency,

In accordance with the General Assembly resolution 71/181, I will convene a commemorative plenary meeting of the General Assembly to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March at 10.00 am in the General Assembly Hall.

The meeting will focus on the state of racial discrimination worldwide, and the theme for this year's event is: "Racial profiling and incitement to hatred, including in the context of migration".

I have invited Ms. Louise Arbour, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration, Ms. Anastacia Crickley, Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and Mr. Mutuma Ruteere, Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to make statements at the meeting.

In keeping with the decision of the General Assembly on the format of such meetings, I encourage Member States to present regional statements during the commemorative meeting.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Thomson".

Peter Thomson

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