

10:45 – 11:30 Overview of the 76th Session of the General Assembly

76th session from Tuesday, 14 September 2021 through Monday, 12 September 2022. Basic information in the daily Journal (copied in the box below). Also the information note for the general debate and other high-level meetings is in A/INF/76/4 and A/INF/76/4/Rev.1.

(Journal/General Information/ General Assembly: seventy-sixth session)

The seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly **will commence** at United Nations Headquarters on Tuesday, 14 September 2021.

The **provisional agenda** of the seventy-sixth regular session of the General Assembly is contained in document A/76/150.

The **annotated preliminary** list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-sixth regular session of the General Assembly is contained in document A/76/100.

The **list of supplementary items** proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly is contained in document A/76/200.

A **draft programme of the work** of the plenary for the seventy-sixth session is contained in document A/75/965.

The **information note** for delegations on the arrangements for high-level meetings and the general debate of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly was issued in document A/INF/76/4 A/INF/76/4/Add.1.

Seating protocol for the seventy-sixth session

On Monday, 7 June 2021, the name of **Suriname** was drawn from among Member States to occupy the first seat in the General Assembly Hall at the seventy-sixth session. Consequently, the delegation of Suriname will sit at the first desk at the right of the President, and the other countries will follow in the English alphabetical order. The same order will be observed in the Main Committees.

General Debate

The general debate will **open** on Tuesday, 21 September 2021.

The provisional **list of speakers** for the general debate (21 to 25 and 27 September 2021) was sent by e-mail directly to the permanent missions on 13 August 2021.

Delegations are kindly reminded that, in accordance with established practice, each statement in the general debate **should be limited to 15 minutes** in order to accommodate speakers for each meeting in

a timely fashion. In order to assist the speakers with the timely delivery of their statements, a light mechanism will be installed at the rostrum. Delegations may wish to inform their capitals accordingly. Where pre-recorded statements are used, the 15-minute time limit will include remarks in the General Assembly Hall to introduce the pre-recorded message and the message itself. The list of speakers for each meeting is built on this voluntarily agreed time limit.

The **theme** “Building resilience through hope – to recover from COVID-19, rebuild sustainable, respond to the needs of the planet, respect the rights of people, and revitalize the United Nations” has been proposed for the general debate at the seventy-sixth session, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/126, Annex (A letter from the President of the General Assembly, dated 7 July 2021, was sent to all permanent representatives and permanent observers).

1. First week

Monday, 13 September (Closing of 75th session will include the oath of office of PGA-76 and the hand-over of the gavel)

Tuesday, 14 September Opening meeting to cover the declaration of the opening of the session, Minute of silent prayer or meditation; PGA statement; SG statement; Taking note of a letter from the SG addressed to the PGA on Member States in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the UN within the terms of Article 19 of the Charter; Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee; Recommendation by the Committee on Conferences to authorize some subsidiary organs to meet during the main part of the session.

Wednesday, 15 September (General Committee)

Three new items have been requested so far in A/76/150 and A/76/200:

International cooperation on access to justice for survivors of sexual violence [item proposed by Sierra Leone] (A/76/191).

Observer status for the International Solar Alliance in the General Assembly [item proposed by more than 60 Member States] (A/76/192).

Election of members of the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent [sub-item proposed by the Secretary-General] (A/76/193).

GC will make recommendation on the inclusion and allocation of agenda items, to be contained in its first report (A/76/250) to be issued on Thursday, 16 September.

Friday, 17 September 2nd plenary meeting to consider the first report of the General Committee)

2. **High-level week** (listed in the Journal handout, more information in A/INF/76/4 and A/INF/76/4/Rev.1, as mentioned earlier)

General Debate (21 to 25 September, except on Sunday, 26 September and Monday, 27 September) and (1) High-level meeting to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (Wednesday, 22 September); and (2) High-level plenary meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of **Nuclear Weapons** (Tuesday, 28 September). Separately, (3) the **Secretary-General** will be holding several events.

3. The remainder of the main part of the session

- (1) **Debates on agenda items considered directly by the plenary will proceed based on A/75/965.** Most of the plenary items are scheduled to be considered during the main part, while a few others are for the resumed part, as listed at the end of the programme, including the election of the Security Council and ECOSOC members. The report of the Security Council will also be considered during the resumed part.

Draft programme of work of the plenary for the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly

First week (14–17 September)

Tuesday, 14 September, p.m.

Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly [1]¹

Minute of silent prayer or meditation [2]

Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee [3 (a)]

Wednesday, 15 September

Meeting of the General Committee

Thursday, 16 September

*Yom Kippur*²

¹ Items and their numbers cited herein are from the provisional agenda of the seventy-sixth session ([A/76/150](#)). All items are pending approval by the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session for their inclusion in the agenda and allocation for consideration. Some items that are on the provisional agenda but not reflected in this draft programme are omitted either in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly or for scheduling at a later date.

² In its resolution [69/250](#), the General Assembly invited United Nations bodies at Headquarters and other duty stations where observed to avoid holding meetings on this holiday.

Friday, 17 September	Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: first report of the General Committee [7]
Second week (20–24 September)	
Tuesday, 21 September, to Saturday, 25 September	General debate [8] ³
Third week (27 September–1 October)	
Monday, 27 September	General debate [8]
Fourth week (4–8 October)	
Fifth week (11–15 October)	
	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences; Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday, 11 October	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [15]; Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [120]; Strengthening of the United Nations system [125]; United Nations reform: measures and proposals [126]: <i>joint debate</i>
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Thursday, 14 October	Election of members of the Human Rights Council [117 (d)]
Sixth week (18–22 October)	
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Wednesday, 20 October, p.m.	International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals [130]
Seventh week (25–29 October)	
	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]

³ As the first item before the opening of the general debate, the Secretary-General will present his report on the work of the Organization.

Monday, 25 October	Space as a driver of sustainable development [29] [Promotion of justice and international law]
Thursday, 28 October	Report of the International Court of Justice [77] [Promotion of human rights]
Friday, 29 October	Report of the Human Rights Council [70]
Eighth week (1–5 November)	[Promotion of justice and international law]
Monday, 1 November	Report of the International Criminal Court [78] [Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]
Tuesday, 2 November	1. Report of the Economic and Social Council [9]; Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [15]: <i>joint debate</i> 2. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [120]: specific meeting focused on development (resolution 60/265)
Thursday, 4 November	<i>Diwali</i> ³ [Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Friday, 5 November	Election of a member of the International Court of Justice [item 116 (c)]
Ninth week (8–12 November)	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday, 8 November	Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations [122]; Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [123]: <i>joint debate</i> [Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Thursday, 11 November	1. Election of members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination [117 (a)] 2. Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences [118 (f)]

	3. Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit [118 (g)]
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Friday, 12 November	Election of the members of the International Law Commission [117 (f)]
Tenth week (15–19 November)	
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday, 15 November	Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council [124]
	[Disarmament]
Wednesday, 17 November	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [92]
Friday, 19 November	<i>Gurpurab</i> ³
Eleventh week (22–26 November)	
Monday, 22 November	Crime prevention and criminal justice [item 109]: <i>High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons</i> (resolution 75/283)
Tuesday, 23 November	Crime prevention and criminal justice [item 109]: <i>High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons</i> (resolution 75/283)
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Wednesday, 24 November	Commemoration of the abolition of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade [121]
Thursday, 25 November	<i>Official United Nations holiday (Thanksgiving)</i>
Twelfth week (29 November–3 December)	
	[Maintenance of international peace and security]
Wednesday, 1 December	1. Question of Palestine [38] 2. The situation in the Middle East [37]

	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]
Thursday, 2 December	Sport for development and peace: building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal [12]
Thirteenth week (6–13 December)	
	[Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences]
Monday, 6 December	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin [10] 2. Culture of peace [16]
	[Promotion of justice and international law]
Tuesday, 7 December	Oceans and the law of the sea [79 (a) and (b)]
	[Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Thursday, 9 December	Global health and foreign policy [129]
	[Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts]
Friday, 10 December	Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [76 (a) to (c)]
	[Maintenance of international peace and security; Organizational, administrative and other matters]
Monday, 13 December	<p>The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan [40]</p> <p>Election of members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law [117 (e)]</p> <p>(13 December: end of 13 weeks)</p>

Plenary items scheduled for consideration during the **main part of the session on a date to be determined**

Report of the Credentials Committee [3 (b)]

Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba [42]

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia – residual functions [91]

Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme [117 (b)]

Election of members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission [117 (c)]

Appointment of members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns [118 (h)]

Plenary items not scheduled for consideration during the main part of the session

Election of the President of the General Assembly [4]

Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly [6]

Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS [11]

Improving global road safety [13]

2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa [14]; New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support [69 (a) and (b)]: *joint debate*

Report of the Security Council [30]

Report of the Peacebuilding Commission [31]; Peacebuilding and sustaining peace [67]; Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund [114]: *joint debate*

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies [32]

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict [33]

Prevention of armed conflict [34 (a) and (b)]

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development [35]

Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic [36]

The situation in Afghanistan [39]

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [113]

Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations [115]

Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council [116 (a)]⁴

Election of members of the Economic and Social Council [116 (b)]⁵

Approval of the appointment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [118 (i)]

Commemoration of the abolition of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade [121]:
commemorative meeting of the General Assembly to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union [128]

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him [131]

Sexual exploitation and abuse: implementing a zero-tolerance policy [132]

The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity [133]

Plenary items not yet scheduled for consideration during the seventy-sixth session, as their inclusion in the draft agenda of the seventy-sixth session is subject to any action that the Assembly may take on them at its seventy-fifth session

The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine [68]

Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965 [90]

Multilingualism [127]

Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets [134]

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- (2) A debate will consist of (a) PGA/SG statements, if applicable, and (b) statements by Member States and observers (114 observers are listed in A/INF/76/3). Statements would begin with the introduction of any proposal under the item (“L documents”), followed by group statements and national statements.
- (3) After the debate, GA will take action on any proposal ready for action, to be adopted as a resolution or a decision. Explanation of votes can be made by those

⁴ The General Assembly, in its resolution [68/307](#), decided to conduct the elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, beginning at the seventieth session.

who are not sponsors (rule 88). If there is a proposal to be submitted after the conclusion of the debate, all that it takes is for the delegation concerned to inform GAAB. GAAB will then leave the item open.

Sample annotation from A/76/100: Culture of peace

The item entitled “Towards a culture of peace” was included in the agenda of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly at the request of a number of States ([A/52/191](#)). At that session, the Assembly, under that item, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled “Culture of peace” (resolution [52/13](#)). The Assembly had the item on its agenda at its fifty-third session and has had the item on its agenda annually since its fifty-fifth session (resolutions [53/25](#), [53/243](#) (Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace), [55/47](#), [56/5](#), [57/6](#), [58/11](#), [58/128](#), [59/23](#), [59/142](#), [59/143](#), [60/3](#), [60/10](#), [60/11](#), [61/45](#), [61/221](#), [61/269](#) to [61/271](#), [62/89](#), [62/90](#), [63/22](#), [63/113](#), [63/198](#), [64/13](#), [64/14](#), [64/80](#), [64/81](#), [64/253](#), [65/5](#), [65/11](#), [65/138](#), [65/275](#), [66/116](#), [66/226](#), [67/104](#) to [67/106](#), [68/125](#) to [68/127](#), [69/139](#), [69/140](#), [69/281](#), [69/312](#), [70/19](#), [70/20](#), [70/109](#), [70/254](#), [71/249](#), [71/252](#), [71/275](#), [72/17](#), [72/129](#), [72/130](#), [72/136](#), [72/137](#), [72/241](#), [73/126](#) to [73/129](#), [73/300](#), [73/328](#), [73/329](#), [73/338](#), [73/344](#), [74/21](#), [74/22](#), [74/23](#), [75/25](#), [75/26](#), [75/200](#) and [75/258](#)).

At its sixty-fourth session, the Assembly decided to designate 18 July as Nelson Mandela International Day, to be observed each year beginning in 2010, and requested the Secretary-General to keep the Assembly informed on an annual basis concerning the observance of the Day (resolution [64/13](#)).

At its sixty-fifth session, the Assembly proclaimed the first week of February every year the World Interfaith Harmony Week between all religions, faiths and beliefs, and encouraged all States to support, on a voluntary basis, the spread of the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill in the world’s churches, mosques, synagogues, temples and other places of worship during that week. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the implementation of the resolution (resolution [65/5](#)).

At its seventy-fifth session, the Assembly considered the item in a debate, where statements were made by 20 delegations (see [A/75/PV.33](#) and [35](#)). The Assembly reiterated its request to the President of the Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace on the occasion of the anniversary of its adoption, on or around 13 September, and requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its seventy-sixth session a report, within existing resources, on actions taken by Member States, on the basis of information provided by them, and those taken system-wide by all concerned entities of the United Nations to implement the resolution entitled “Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace” and on heightened activities by the Organization and its affiliated agencies to implement the Programme of Action and to promote a culture of peace and non-violence (resolution [75/25](#)).

At the same session, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its seventy-sixth session on the implementation of the resolution entitled “Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace” (resolution [75/26](#)).

Also at the same session, the Assembly decided to continue consideration of the question of promoting a culture of peace and tolerance to safeguard religious sites under the item (resolution [75/258](#)).

Documents for the seventy-sixth session: Reports of the Secretary-General (resolutions [75/25](#) and [75/26](#)).

References for the seventy-fifth session (agenda item 15)

Report of the Secretary-General	A/75/233
Draft resolutions	A/75/L.28 , A/75/L.28/Add.1 , A/75/L.36/Rev.1 , A/75/L.36/Rev.1/Add.1 , A/75/L.52 , A/75/L.52/Add.1 , A/75/L.54 and A/75/L.54/Add.1
Plenary meetings	A/75/PV.33 , 35 , 47 and 50
Resolutions	75/25 , 75/26 , 75/200 and 75/258

(4) Main Committee reports to be considered in December.

(5) Other meetings mandated by the GA include:

- (a) an informal one-day supporting event, before the end of 2021, on improving global road safety (resolution 75/308)

4. Resumed part

- (1) Formal plenary meetings on remaining items or additional proposals (no pre-established calendar)
- (2) Thematic debates held by PGA, some of which may be mandated by a GA resolution
- (3) Briefings by SG, etc.
- (4) Informal consultation processes: examples of anticipated processes (more expected to be mandated by resolutions adopted during the main part of the session):
 - (a) SC reform
 - (b) Ad-hoc WG on GA revitalization

(5) Other meetings mandated by the GA (PGA letter of 24 June 2021):

Early 2022	High-level event for the launch of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (A/Res/75/168)
Early 2022	Informal briefing on the Group of 20 (A/Res/71/237) ¹
21 March 2022	Commemorative meeting for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/Res/75/237) ²
25 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) ¹
By April 2022	Informal interactive hearing with indigenous peoples (A/Res/71/321 and decision 75/561)
22 April 2022	Interactive dialogue on Harmony with Nature (A/Res/75/220) ²
28 April 2022	One-day high-level meeting on the New Urban Agenda (Habitat III) (A/Res/75/224)
By May 2022	Informal interactive dialogue with the candidates for the position of President of the General Assembly (A/Res/71/323) ¹
By June 2022	Four-day 1 st International Migration Review Forum (A/Res/73/326)
July 2022	High-level meeting on global road safety (A/Res/74/299)
29 August 2022	High-level plenary meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day against Nuclear Tests (A/Res/72/51) ¹
On or around 13 September 2022	High-Level Forum on a Culture of Peace (A/Res/75/25) ²
By September 2022	High-level meeting on financing for peacebuilding (A/Res/75/201)

5. Other references

- Delegate's Handbook (FAQ section)

- GA Handbook (https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/mission-new-york/en/documents/UN_GA_Final.pdf)
- A/75/250 (first report of the General Committee)

6. Terminology

“Session”; “emergency special session” <-> meetings

President/ Chair

Agenda/ programme/ calendar

Amend/ revise

Vote/ action