



PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

H.E. Amb. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande  
President of the General Assembly

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New York, 1 April 2020

### **General Assembly Voting Procedure during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Mr. President,

Thank you for your leadership in ensuring the ability of the General Assembly to implement its mandate during the COVID-19 pandemic. The adoption of decision 74/544 on 27 March 2020 entitled “Procedure for taking decisions of the General Assembly during the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic” was an important step in that direction and Liechtenstein has put its understanding of the procedure adopted on record.

In addition, the General Assembly should move expeditiously to find arrangements that allows it to operate in full compliance of the Rules of Procedure, offering in particular the full range of procedural tools provided therein. To that effect the step-by-step process outlined in decision 74/544 must be complemented by the establishment of an appropriate voting procedure. Such a procedure is both necessary and technically feasible, as demonstrated by the fact that the Security Council has adopted its own voting procedure in the meantime. We look forward to your leadership in guiding the Assembly in taking this next step, in close consultation with Member States. Notwithstanding our expectation that the General Assembly will continue its practice of adopting resolutions predominantly by consensus and our commitment to work towards this goal, the Assembly is not fully functional and operational without the possibility to vote. The current unprecedented crisis warrants a strong leading role of the Assembly more than ever.

We look forward to continuing our conversation with you and your team.

Sincerely,

Christian Wenaweser  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative