

**Ad hoc Working Group on revitalization
of the General Assembly
9th Meeting**

29 June 2006

Statement

**by Mr. Sergei Rachkov
Deputy Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations**

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

Let me express sincere gratitude to you for inclusion of the proposal regarding rearrangement of items in the United Nations Journal into the draft resolution. The delegation of Belarus appreciates this effort of the Co-Chairs aimed at enhancing the role and authority of the General Assembly. During the process of preparation of a draft resolution the distinguished Co-Chairs have demonstrated the willingness to take into consideration effective, valuable and practical proposals for GA revitalization.

In order to make this resolution even more sufficient I want to draw your attention to the way how to improve the proposed wording that the plenary and other major events of the General Assembly may appear **alongside** the Security Council meetings. We would like to avoid double meaning of the word “alongside”. Most often it means “next to” or “close to the side of”. Upon adoption of the resolution with current wording the people in the United Nations Secretariat who are dealing with the editing of UN Journal would understand it as to leave an order of the UN events in the Journal where it is right now – all General Assembly events after the Security Council meetings.

We are humbly suggesting the consideration of a possibility to use more clear words and to substitute “alongside” with “prior to”. We propose the following wording: “General Assembly ... requests the rearrangement of items in the Journal of the United Nations so that listings of Plenary and other major events of the General Assembly may appear **prior to** the meetings of the Security Council”. We believe that this step can be considered as an efficient and important instrument of collective UN therapy.

At first sight this issue seems to be insignificant or even trivial. However this is a genuine test to our ability to state clearly obvious things, even if these things for a long time have been diffused. Just imagine how many suspicions and grievances we could prevent! How much ill-conceived mistrust we could put to rest by making this simple, natural and logical step!