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New York, 14 February 2020

Dear Executive Secretary of the UNOG Staff Coordinating Council,

I acknowledge reception of your letter dated 12 February 2020, in which you expressed your concern regarding the judicial proceedings concerning the Geneva post-adjustment. Please let me reassure you that I understand your concern. However, there are a number of challenges facing the Dispute Tribunal in general and, in particular, the Nairobi Registry, which I would like for you to bear in mind.

As you know, since 2019, the Tribunal is handling a heavy backlog from previous years with less judicial capacity than in 2018: only 3 full-time judges and 6 part-time judges, instead of 6 full-time judges and 2 part-time judges.

Moreover, the cases you refer to were entrusted to the Nairobi registry and the Nairobi full-time judge.

It is important to recall that this registry has the heaviest workload and the largest and oldest backlog, with less judicial support than previous years.

Finally, I would like to recall that the proceedings in these cases are still in progress, with a new submission by the Respondent received as recently as last January. The presiding judge is working on the cases and makes all efforts to ensure a prompt and fair disposal of the cases. With these factors in mind and having consulted with the presiding judge, I am unfortunately not in a position to accurately forecast a date for the judgment yet.

Despite all these challenges, I can reassure you of my commitment and that of every judge of the Dispute Tribunal to ensure a fair and expeditious administration of justice in the United Nations and I thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours sincerely

Joelle Adda
President
United Nations Dispute Tribunal

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By e-mail only