WEOG Statement on the occasion of the election of the
President of the General Assembly for its 69th session

I have the honor to address the General Assembly today on behalf of the Western European and Other States Group.

On behalf of the Group, I would like to extend our congratulations to His Excellency Mr Sam Kutesa, the Foreign Minister of Uganda, on his election to this important position. We trust that he will serve well the collective good of the General Assembly.

We look forward to working with the President-elect during the 69th session. This will be an important year for the General Assembly as we work towards agreement of a new and transformative international development agenda. Collectively we must ensure that the new agenda puts the world firmly on a path to end extreme poverty through successful sustainable development and advances the protection, promotion and realization of human rights for all people, without discrimination or distinction of any kind or for any reason.

We look to the President-elect to support and guide this collective endeavor throughout his term in office.

We would also like to express our Group’s appreciation for the leadership of the outgoing President of the General Assembly, His Excellency Mr John Ashe. We are particularly grateful for his tireless efforts to promote dialogue and mutual understanding among member states on the different aspects of the post-2015 development agenda.

On behalf of the Western European and Other States Group, I wish the President and the President-elect every success in their important work.