



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

3 December 2012

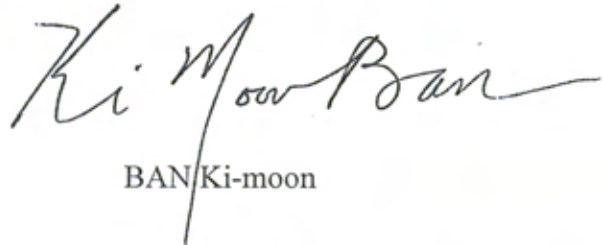
Excellency,

Nearly four years have passed since the successful conduct of parliamentary elections in December 2008. The elections marked an important step toward a stronger democratic order in Bangladesh; much has happened since to consolidate the country's democratic transition.

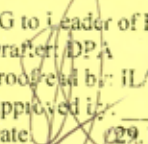
In this regard, however, I wish to urge you and your party to engage constructively with the Government in order to defuse tensions and reach a consensus towards creating an environment conducive to free, fair and credible elections. This will help ensure that the elections can take place in a peaceful, secure and inclusive environment. Democracy and stability can be sustained only if all parties work together for the greater good of the country.

As you recall, the United Nations contributed its modest share to the success of the 2008 polls. I wish to reassure you that the United Nations remains committed to providing continued support for your country's democratic processes and institutions. I have asked Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, to undertake a mission to Dhaka from 6 to 10 December 2012 in order to discuss ways in which the United Nations might be of assistance to Bangladesh.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN/Ki-moon

Her Excellency
Mrs. Khaleda Zia
Leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party
Dhaka

SG to Leader of BNP
Drafter: DPA
Proofread by: IL/SA
Approved by: 
Date: 29.11.12