



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

19 June 2008

Excellency,

Thank you very much for taking time to speak with me from Cotonou on Wednesday, 18 June 2008. It was a great pleasure to meet with you in Yokohama on 29 May during the proceedings of TICAD IV. I am writing to you also to follow up on our useful discussion and to welcome the mantle of leadership you have taken on so proactively in support of Africa's development. In particular, I would like to warmly thank you for the strong approval you expressed for the work of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Africa Steering Group and for your rapid engagement in its activities.

On behalf of the other MDG Africa Steering Group Members, the Secretary-General has written to African leaders and to donor countries to seek their endorsement of the recommendations and commitment to ensure their fullest implementation.

The Secretary-General and I are very pleased to note that the work of the MDG Africa Steering Group features in the agenda of the Eleventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union, scheduled to take place from 30 June to 1 July in Sharm-El-Sheikh.

In view of the strong support expressed for the MDG Africa Steering Group by the African Union in January in Addis Ababa, the upcoming summit would provide an ideal moment for African States to endorse the Steering Group's recommendations, which are attached herein, as the AU-supported plan to achieve the MDGs across Africa. This endorsement would create an ideal time for the Steering Group Principals present in Sharm-El-Sheikh to join with President Kikwete and yourself to present the Steering Group's recommendations to the press and the public.

I look forward to seeing you again in Sharm-El-Sheikh.

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

  
Asha-Rose Migiro

His Excellency  
Mr. Jean Ping  
Chairperson of the Africa Union Commission  
Addis Ababa

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

20 June 2008

Excellency,

The Deputy Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to His Excellency, Mr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the Africa Union Commission.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'O' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Parfait Onanga-Anyanga  
Director  
Office of the Deputy Secretary-General

Her Excellency  
Mrs. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana  
Permanent Observer of the Office  
of the African Union  
to the United Nations  
New York

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