



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

17 November 2008

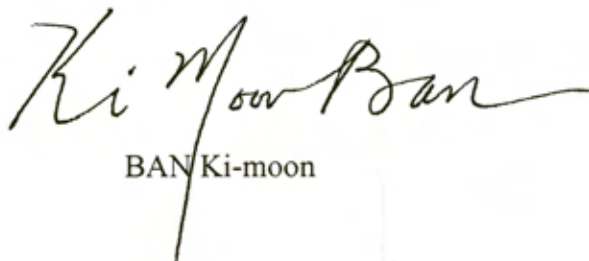
Excellency,

I have the pleasure to refer to your letter to me dated 23 October 2008 about coordination arrangements for the High Level Task Force on the Food Security Crisis. I am grateful to you for your expression of support for the work of the United Nations and its partner agencies to respond to the global food crisis. I wish to thank you in particular for the support the Government of Italy has provided and continues to ensure to the Rome-based UN institutions.


I have been giving careful thought to the best ways to ensure that the Organization continues to be adequately and effectively equipped to respond to the global food crisis through the work of the High Level Task Force. I note your strong interest in Rome having a prominent role in the future of the Task Force. Any arrangement that will be made will recognize the crucial role of the Rome-based UN agencies.

As we face the 'perfect storm' of the food, energy and financial crises, aggravated by the consequences of climate change, your continuous support and active engagement in the work of the Organization are critical, particularly for the realization of the Millennium Development Goals – especially MDG 1, which aims at eradicating extreme poverty and hunger.

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


BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Franco Frattini
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Italy
Rome

To: H.E. Mr. Franco Frattini
Drafter: Silva Bonacito
Authorized: 
Date: 17 November 2008