



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

3 May 2012

Dear Mr. Touré,

I would like to thank you for your letter dated 12 April 2012, inviting me to attend a meeting of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, to be held in New York on 23 September 2012.

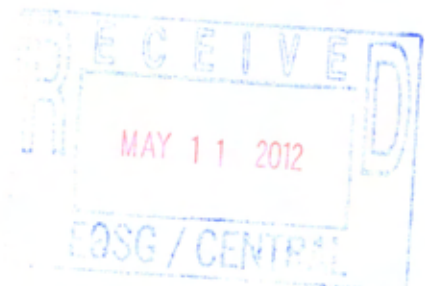
I appreciate your kind invitation. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that I will be unable to attend the meeting, owing to prior commitments already on my schedule on the said date. Nevertheless, I am pleased to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes for a successful meeting.

A similar response has been sent to Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO and Vice-Chair of Broadband Commission for Digital Development, who co-signed the invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Ki Moon Ban
BAN Ki-moon

Mr. Hamadoun I. Touré
Secretary-General
International Telecommunication Union
and Vice-Chair of Broadband Commission
for Digital Development
Geneva



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UNITED NATIONS



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

3 May 2012

Dear Ms. Bokova,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 12 April 2012, inviting him to attend a meeting of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, to be held in New York on 23 September 2012.

The Secretary-General appreciates your kind invitation. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that he will be unable to attend the meeting, owing to prior commitments and pressing demands on the said date. Nevertheless, allow me to take this opportunity to convey his best wishes for a successful event.

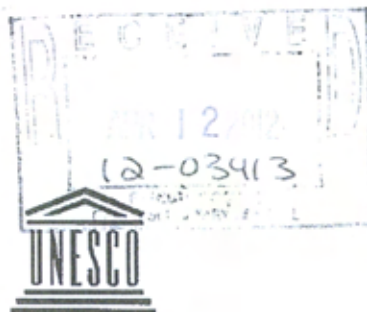
A similar response has been sent to Mr. Hamadoun I. Touré, Secretary-General of International Telecommunication Union and Vice-Chair of Broadband Commission for Digital Development, who co-signed the invitation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Susana Malcorra
Chef de Cabinet

Ms. Irina Bokova
Director-General
UNESCO and Vice Chair of Broadband
Commission for Digital Development
Geneva



JA

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Regret CUNGA)

CC: SL, TG, IK)

Geneva, 12 April 2012

Mr Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
UNITED NATIONS Headquarters
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
United States

Dear Secretary-General,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to attend a meeting of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development in New York on 23 September 2012, and in particular to receive the report *"The State of Broadband 2012"* from the Commission during a high-level luncheon at the Yale Club on this occasion. ✓

Since 2010, the Broadband Commission has been advocating for the vital role broadband networks and broadband enabled applications and services will play in our societies' future, and has further been investigating ways of accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. Looking ahead towards 2015 and beyond, the Commission remains at your disposal as a tool for advancing the United Nations' developmental agenda, and we look forward to using the opportunity of the meeting to brief you more fully on our activities and how we intend to continue to promote Broadband and ICT Networks as a cross-cutting infrastructure, as well as multilingual local content, areas that are increasingly important for achieving the three pillars of sustainability – social, economic and environmental.

Now is truly a pertinent time to include ICT and broadband networks, as well as broadband-enabled applications and services, at the very forefront of our developmental work. Last year the General Assembly endorsed RES/65/141: "Information and communication technologies for development", which referenced the establishment and work of the Broadband Commission. 2012 and 2013 also mark the start of the WSIS ten year review process, which provides an opportunity for us to take stock of our progress since the first World Summit on the Information Society, in Geneva in 2003. Furthermore, as we begin to develop a campaign that will take us past 2015 and the MDGs towards the Sustainable Development Goals, it is most vital that ICT and broadband are given the attention they deserve as essential elements in the achievement of our UN-system ideals of peace, human rights and development for all.

www.broadbandcommission.org

The Broadband Commission will continue exploring and showcasing concrete examples of these technologies changing lives in everyday situations, and will further continue to foster the relationships and environment needed for broadband-enabled applications and services rollout.

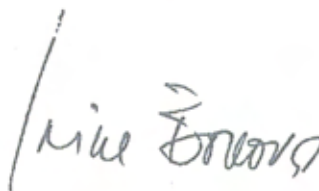
We very much hope you will be able to join us to see first-hand the energy and dedication with which this group is committed to moving the developmental agenda forwards. In any event ITU, UNESCO and the Broadband Commission for Digital Development stand ready to assist you in the run-up to 2015 and beyond.

Yours sincerely,



Hamadoun I. Touré
Secretary-General
ITU

Vice-Chair
*Broadband Commission
for Digital Development*



Irina Bokova
Director General
UNESCO

Vice-Chair
*Broadband Commission
for Digital Development*



Geneva, 12 April 2012

Mr Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
UNITED NATIONS Headquarters
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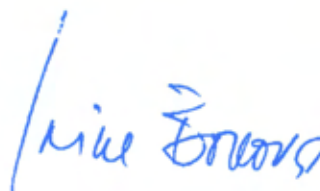
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Yours sincerely,



Hamadoun I. Touré
Secretary-General
ITU

Vice-Chair
*Broadband Commission
for Digital Development*



Irina Bokova
Director General
UNESCO

Vice-Chair
*Broadband Commission
for Digital Development*