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## UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente  
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Reference: DTIE/GMG/EO/2014/MR/yo

14 October 2014

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

As a contribution to achieve the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) efficiency goals and with support from the Chinese government – the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology – UNEP will host the *Global Efficient Lighting Forum* in **Beijing** from 10 to 11 November. The Global Forum is critical to garner additional support for the SE4ALL Lighting Energy Efficiency Accelerator, and stimulate the adoption of advanced lighting policies by states, cities, businesses, and the public sector.

The Forum will convene 200 delegates including ministers, energy and environment directors from 100 countries, as well as leading lighting manufacturers, international financial institutions and development partners. The aim is to reach a **consensus** on key actions needed to accelerate the global transition to modern, efficient lighting. This would constitute a bold, voluntary pledge serving to inspire countries in the UNFCCC negotiations.

In this context, I wish to invite you to record a three minute video message for the Global Forum. Your words would set the stage for the discussions, signifying UN's highest commitment to make SE4ALL a success. **Your** encouragement to action in Beijing will help us achieve the SE4ALL goal on energy efficiency, starting with one of its most significant and critical accelerators: lighting.

Lighting technology advancements allow countries to save significant amounts of electricity, reduce their energy bills, and lower carbon emissions while ensuring safer and more productive lives for citizens. The world needs concrete and inspiring examples to **mitigate** climate change. Advanced lighting is an area where the UN and its private sector partners have a positive and compelling message to share.

Please find enclosed a draft statement for a video message that I hope proves useful, and relevant background information regarding the Forum. I thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner  
Executive Director

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OCT 14 2014

14-09493

Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017-3599E-mail: [SGcentral@un.org](mailto:SGcentral@un.org)

Executive Office

**Remarks by H.E., Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General**

**The Global Efficient Lighting Forum, Beijing, 10 November 2014**

*Dear Excellences, representatives from governments, private sector, civil society and international agencies,*

Climate change is the defining issue of our time. Leaders must set the world on a clear path to limit global warming below 2 degrees. In a few days, they will meet in Peru to pave the way for a globally binding climate agreement next year in Paris.

All of you gathered at the Global Efficient Lighting Forum in Beijing can make a difference. *Efficient lighting* is our unique, and perhaps, simplest tool to help mitigate climate change.

Illumination is essential in homes, businesses, schools, public facilities and throughout our cities and towns. Nonetheless, we need to cut emissions that are related to lighting.

Whether linked to a dirty and unhealthy kerosene lamp or the operation of an inefficient incandescent lamp, the demand for lighting services has a significant and growing environmental impact.

The need for light and the benefits that efficient lighting delivers are universal, but are not yet accessible nor sufficient to meet everyone's needs. Over a month ago in New York, at the *Climate Summit*, lighting was singled out as an area of critical focus to achieve *Sustainable Energy for All* goals and mitigate climate.

Efficient lighting was selected an essential Energy Efficiency *Accelerator* by the *Sustainable Energy for All* initiative, directly contributing to its three goals: efficiency, renewable energy and access.

Efficient lighting is also fundamental to move to smarter and greener economies. Not only is a source of jobs, but also of increased productivity. It contributes to improved health and safety, especially for the most vulnerable populations.

Many of your governments, businesses and organizations are already making positive changes by committing to a rapid transition to efficient lighting. Even so, vast opportunities and innovative solutions remain untapped.

We must all work together to mobilize money and move markets by investing in lighting **innovations** as clean climate technology solutions.

We need more public finance institutions and electric utility providers to step up to the challenge. New lighting technologies hold huge potential to save energy and accelerate development. We need to show private finance that efficient lighting is a smart investment for the planet.

Your leadership is critical: you can demonstrate that efficient lighting is reliable, affordable and sustainable. You can act through your governments, peers and constituents to make every light an efficient one.

Efficient lighting offers the easiest means to mitigate climate change. The important partnerships you forge and the resolutions you make here in Beijing, plus the commitments made in New York at the *UN Climate Summit*, will shine as bright beacons for the *Climate Change Conference of Parties* in 2015 in Paris.

I thank you all for coming to Beijing to identify the critical actions needed to leapfrog our economies to advanced lighting. Throughout your discussions in these two days, I challenge you to commit to light the way—efficiently—toward a low-carbon, climate resilient future.

Thank you.



**Fw: Letter from Mr. A. Steiner inviting SG to record a video message**

SGCentral to: Hazel Foster

14/10/2014 12:30 PM

Sent by: Hazel Foster

----- Forwarded by Hazel Foster/NY/UNO on 14/10/2014 12:30 PM -----

From: Executive Office/UNEP/NBO/UNO@UNON  
To: SGCentral/NY/UNO@UNHQ,  
Cc: Mark.Radka@unep.fr  
Date: 14/10/2014 11:43 AM  
Subject: Letter from Mr. A. Steiner inviting SG to record a video message  
Sent by: Yuna Obiero@UNON

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Dear Colleagues,

Mr. Achim Steiner would greatly appreciate if you would kindly forward the attached letter for the urgent attention of the Secretary-General, Mr. BAN Ki-moon. Many thanks,



UN S-G. -SE4ALLdocx.pdf Draft remarks\_UN SG\_Global Efficient Lighting Forum\_06.10.2014.docx

Yuna  
for:  
Executive Office