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International Labour Office

The Director-General

14 DEC. 2012

Dear Secretary-General,

I regret that I did not have the opportunity to thank you in person in New York for the warm congratulations conveyed in your letter immediately following my election.

The UN family is confronting major challenges in meeting our collective and organization-specific goals. Today the world of work is in crisis expressed in record levels of unemployment and underemployment, particularly acute among young women and men, not to speak of the deterioration in the quality of work, the pressures being put on respect for fundamental principles and rights at work and the lack of social protection coverage for the majority of the world's population. At the same time, growing inequality worldwide is undermining social cohesion.

I am firmly resolved to build on the strong foundation set down by my predecessor Mr Somavia in promoting economic growth with social progress. I bring to my present responsibilities a long personal engagement in this cause.

You have been a strong champion of decent work recognizing that it is essential to securing dignity for families, recovery for economies and the realization of international development goals. I look forward to your continued support for coherent policies and action that promote decent work for all. I also assure you of my commitment to putting the ILO's mandate at the service of our common goals.

After exchanges between our offices, I am delighted to learn that it will be possible to have a meeting with you when I am in New York in January 2013 at that time. I look forward to discussing our common efforts to promote the conditions for a just, sustainable world.

Yours sincerely,

Guy Ryder

Mr Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
NEW YORK



12/21/2012