



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

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8 September 2016

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
1st Avenue and 46th Street
New York, NY 10017



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Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I would like to update you on the progress we have made in establishing Sustainable Energy for All to be a driving force for implementation of the goals that were established at the beginning of the decade for Sustainable Energy for All and subsequently reinforced by the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG7. The ambition of the Paris Agreement also reinforces the need for concerted action across the government, the private sector and civil society to support action to achieve the goals without delay.

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On behalf of all of us associated with SE4ALL, I want to once again reiterate our deep appreciation for your leadership and for placing the essential issues of sustainable energy in the heart of the development agenda. We are committed to taking your leadership forward and amplifying it with action.

With thanks to the Austrian authorities, SE4ALL is now registered as a Quasi International Organization under Austrian law. Guided by the strategic framework that your Advisory Board for Sustainable Energy for All gave support to at its meeting in Brussels in June, the team is working across the many partnerships within the UN system, and across governments, development banks the private sector and the financial sector, to focus in on activities that can spur action along a critical path to achieving the goals.

We have critical financial support from the governments of the UK, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Austria and the European Commission. The World Bank has been generous in providing support in the form of seconded staff and IT. We are reaching out to others to underpin the financing for SE4ALL to play the role that was envisaged for it.

We formed an administrative board under Austrian law made up of former members of the SE4ALL Executive Committee you appointed. The board is highly dedicated to moving the SE4ALL effort you created forward. Also, we made a very smooth transition from Kandeh to Rachel. I am pleased with Rachel's leadership and her focus on delivering the goals you established. Specifically, in her first six months Rachel has:

1. Secured a global focus on energy access at the G20, building on the focus on Africa achieved last year, and led the discussions on energy access commitments with G20 energy ministers.
2. Established a process bringing the US, UK, European Commission together with the World Bank and the African Development Bank together around coordinated long term efforts in a few key countries, to begin with, to close the access gap, cleanly and affordably. This coordination is a precondition for better flows of private investment in both grid and off grid energy access solutions.
3. Commissioned and leading a group of partners to build a more detailed picture of financial flows into energy access bringing together disparate pieces of information and data to help countries, companies and investors navigate the opportunities provided by the focus on SDG implementation.

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SE4ALL is very fortunate to have Rachel Kyte as our Chief Executive Officer and your Special Representative.

We have commissioned detailed work on the economic impact of not achieving energy access sooner - to bolster the case with policy makers and decision takers that now that technology is advanced it is possible to bring forward energy access solutions. Most of the commissioned work and the new processes will start to hit the ground and bring first results in early 2017.

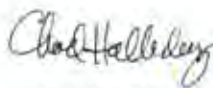
While the governance, establishment and administrative skeleton of the organization has been put in place the programmatic work has moved forward. From the G20 energy ministers where action plans for Asia energy access were developed to complement a plan for Africa, to work to develop new financial streams for energy access solutions, to work to move energy efficiency up the political agenda SE4ALL's partnerships are proving important in supporting governments to act. A series of heat maps that can help direct the international community to where support is most needed in order to close the access gap and to move energy productivity forward have been widely welcomed. This fall, new important knowledge products that will help countries see how well they are doing in providing a positive investment climate for investing in clean, affordable energy solutions will be coming out from SE4ALL's partners.

The last remaining building block is the finalization of a relationship agreement with the UN. We are disappointed that this process is still underway and believe that without its swift resolution the ability of SE4ALL to drive action with the urgency and determination that were hallmarks of your leadership on this issue will be hampered. ✓✓

I would be most grateful if you would encourage a swift conclusion of a relationship agreement along the lines of that discussed in 2015 when the decision to create SE4ALL as a separate entity was taken and when it was suggested that the CEO of SE4ALL may also play a critical role within the UN as a focal point and catalyst. As the chairperson of the Administrative Board of SE4ALL I look forward to signing the relationship agreement at the earliest opportunity.

With the 71st General Assembly upon us, we would like to be able to answer clearly and unequivocally questions about the status of SE4ALL and its relationship to the UN and to be able to continue to contribute to action throughout the last months of this year and to your legacy as Secretary-General.

Sincerely,



Chad Holliday
Chairman, SE4ALL Administrative Board

CC:

Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
Jim Kim, President of the World Bank Group