

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017

CABLE ADDRESS - ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

16 January 2013

Dear Ms. Bekkers and Ms. Meddens,

On behalf of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. BAN Ki-moon, I would like to thank the youth at COP18 for their letter dated 7 December 2012.

The Secretary-General was delighted to learn more about the important efforts of youth to tackle climate change. As the world comes together to find better and more sustainable ways of living, the voices of young people must be heard. Your creativity, enthusiasm and vision hold lessons for us all.

The Secretary-General encourages you to continue your quest for building a more just and sustainable future. Each of you has a significant role to play.

Regarding your request to establish a Youth Solutions Network as part of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, you may wish to follow-up directly with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (Ms. Lauren Barredo, Manager, Lauren.Barredo@unsdsn.org).

Thank you again for your commitment to building a better future for all.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Orr".

Robert Orr
Assistant Secretary-General
for Strategic Planning

Ms. Ralien Bekkers and Ms. Liset Meddens
on behalf of youth at COP 18

13-00165

ECC/04/003

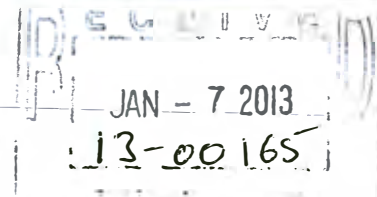
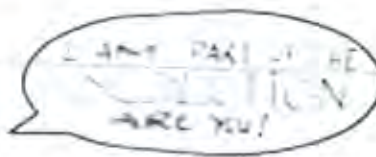
DEV/09/003

JAN 18 2013

rough UNFCCC/Bonn

ACTION *R. or*

COPY *LN*



Doha, December 7, 2012

Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon
Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, Christiana Figueres
Director of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Jeffrey D. Sachs

Recalling the Secretary-General's statement last June in Rio: "Young people must be at the centre of building a sustainable future. Half of the world's population is under 25. We must tap into that enormous source of energy, ideas and potential. After all, young people are at the forefront of innovation. The key is to simply listen. Listen to the voices of young people."

At the Rio+20 Summit the Sustainable Development Solutions Network was mentioned for the first time by Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs. The network was officially launched by the Secretary-General in August. It has the potential to offer many new and exciting opportunities for young people all around the world.

This year, 80 million young people will enter the workforce, with very few prospects. Therefore, scaling up youth involvement in the green economy is key because of the incredible potential to deliver a 'triple bottom line' of job-creating economic growth, environmental sustainability and social inclusion.

Being the majority of the world's population - particularly in the developing world - we as youth want to have a forefront role in addressing the global challenge of tackling climate change, because we are part of the solution. At COP18 in Doha, we as youth have shown leadership and started a worldwide online movement to connect young people with one another to share our solutions. Because many young people are already doing what needs to be done in their own communities. This online network has been developed to inspire, empower, share knowledge, and GET IT DONE.

Climate change is an intergenerational issue. Not only do we want to connect with each other, but we also want to connect with you. Therefore we propose to start - in collaboration with the United Nations - a Youth Solutions Network, as part of the UN-SDSN.

With your recognition, we can scale up our activities and empower youth around the world who are working on - or want to work on - sustainable solutions in their local communities. We are part of the solution. Are you?

Thank you for your anticipated positive consideration,
Youth representing the youth back home,

Africa

Juma Aty Juma
EVANS TEMBO
Emmanuel Duka

Asia

Long Yi Chang
AMINATH ULA AHMED
Tomohiro Takeuchi
Jarnie Seah

Europe

Ralien Bekkers
Marina Fevotomas
Liset Meddens
dus N. Hart

Latin-America

EVELYN ARARIPE
Roberto Madera
Danaé Espinoza
Najma Ritter Figueres

Middle-East

Rhoni Helmy
OUKSI LT younes
Taki Eddine DJEFFAL

North-America

graham Chen
Natalie Lucas
ANJALI APPADURAI

Oceania

David Gawith
SIMON TAPP
Katherine Higgins