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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE TO THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

"MOSCOW MEETS FRIENDS"

Moscow, 26 May – 6 June 2007

At a time when some would seek to divide the human family by exploiting differences among peoples, we need more than ever the contribution of young people who defend and promote the human values that bind us together. It is reassuring to know that you have gathered to celebrate your commitment to global harmony and peaceful coexistence.

Such gatherings go to the heart of what the United Nations stands for. Together, we must nurture communities where people of all faiths, cultures and nationalities coexist in peace. And we must harness these efforts to the United Nations work for peace, development and human rights for all.

In that spirit, I wish you a joyous festival. May your message of peace, tolerance and understanding resound far and wide.

Ban Ki-moon
Ban Ki-moon



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

22 May 2007

Excellency,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to forward the attached message to Maestro Vladimir Spivakov.

A copy of the message is attached for your information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Yeocheol Yoon'.

Yeocheol Yoon
Special Assistant
Chief, Scheduling Office

His Excellency
Mr. Vitaly Churkin
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations
New York

Постоянный Представитель
Российской Федерации
при
Организации Объединенных
Наций



Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

136 East 67th Street
New York N.Y. 10021

N 184

AS
(2 letters)



New York, "24" April 2007

Dear Mr. Ban,

I have the honour to transmit herewith to you the letter from Maestro Vladimir Spivakov, designated 'UNESCO Artist for Peace', on the occasion of the upcoming 4th International Festival "Moscow Meets Friends", which will be held in Moscow from May 26 till June 6, 2007, under the motto "Children of the World Against Terrorism".

In 2004, the Spivakov Foundation initiated the International Festival "Moscow Meets Friends" as an annual event reuniting young talents from the CIS and the Baltic states. The second festival held in May 2005 carried the motto "Children of the World Against Terrorism" for the first time.

More than 1000 young musicians, singers, dancers and artists will come to Moscow this year to prove that the world united by their art has

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
of the United Nations

New York

future. It is worth mentioning, that the upcoming festival will rally young masters not only from the CIS and the Baltic states, but also from other countries, such as Egypt, France, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, Poland, South Korea, Spain and the USA. The initiative has received approval of UNESCO, the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the USA, well-know politicians, public figures and religious leaders from all over the world.

Organizers of the Festival and me personally would immensely appreciate if you could send your welcoming address to the 4th International Festival "Moscow Welcomes Friends".

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vitaly Churkin', with a large, stylized initial 'V'.

Vitaly Churkin



Unofficial translation

Dear Mr. Ban,

From 26 May till 6 June Moscow will host 4th International Festival “Moscow Welcomes Friends”, which is going to be held under the motto “Children of the World Against Terror”. This festival has already become a traditional event in the cultural life of Russia, with children from all over the world taking part in it.

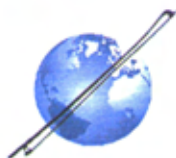
Children are our only chance to look into the future. They are our real opportunity to see tomorrow and help it to occur. Children want to live in the world of kindness and concord, create in the world of mutual respect and credence. Culture is a live environment, it is soil that unites and brings people together. Children are ready to prove it with their art and creative work.

Organizers of the Festival would immensely appreciate it if you could send your welcoming address to the 4th International Festival “Moscow Welcomes Friends”.

Yours Sincerely

Vladimir Spivakov

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General of the United Nations

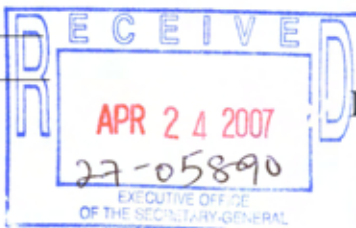


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Генеральному секретарю ООН
Пан Ги Муну

Многоуважаемый господин Пан Ги Мун!

С 27 мая по 06 июня 2007 года в Москве состоится четвертый Международный фестиваль «Москва встречает друзей», который проводится под девизом «Дети мира против террора». Этот фестиваль стал уже традиционным событием в культурной жизни России, в котором принимают участие дети со всего мира.

Дети – это единственный шанс заглянуть в будущее. Это наша реальная возможность увидеть завтрашний день и помочь ему состояться. Дети хотят жить в мире добра и согласия, творить в мире взаимного уважения и доверия. Культура – это живая среда, это – та почва, которая объединяет и роднит. Дети своим искусством, своим творчеством готовы это доказать.

Организаторы фестиваля были бы чрезвычайно признательны, если бы Вы направили в адрес IV Международного фестиваля «Москва встречает друзей» свое приветствие.

Искренне Ваш

Владимир Спиваков