



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Denmark

12 October 2009

Excellency,

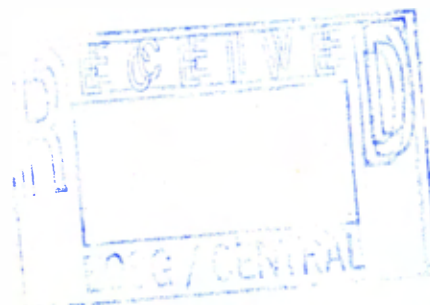
I would like to thank you for your letter of 22 September 2009 in respect of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 63/311 on System-wide coherence. The resolution provides a significant opportunity to outline the modalities of a new gender entity that will be truly relevant in addressing gender issues in the twenty-first century.

Denmark has always been a strong partner for the United Nations on the Millennium Development Goal 3 (MDG3) and I wish to express my deep gratitude for the role Denmark has played in helping us reach this historic moment.

We need to act swiftly. Accordingly, I have asked the Deputy Secretary-General to consult widely with all stakeholders in preparing the comprehensive proposal on the new composite entity. This will be critical to an early decision by the General Assembly. It is my genuine hope that the entity will be well-positioned to provide leadership in our work on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Adequate funding for the new entity remains my major concern. It will be critical that Member States commit to provide adequate assessed and voluntary contributions to enable the entity to start on a firm foundation. I am extremely grateful for the generous offer of possible additional funding from Denmark.

Her Excellency
Ms. Ulla Tørnæs
Minister for Development Cooperation
of Denmark
Copenhagen

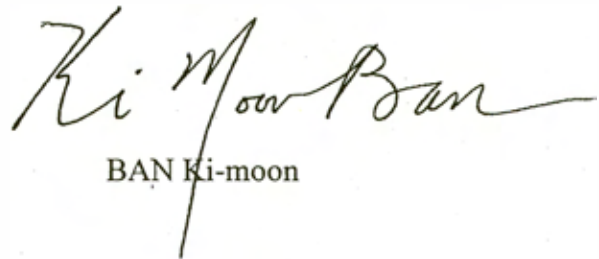


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I am also grateful for receiving the newly released Mid-Term Status on the Implementation of the MDG3 Commitments, as part of the MDG3 Torch Campaign. I am pleased to see that much progress has already been achieved and I commend Denmark once again for this initiative, which the United Nations is proud to be part of.

Finally, I would encourage Denmark to report early in 2010 on its progress in implementing the recommendations of its Africa Commission. This will provide a useful indication of how private-sector development can support our efforts at the 2010 high-level plenary meeting to mobilize action on the MDGs for the last five years to 2015.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ki" and last name "Ban" being more prominent than the middle name "Moon".

BAN Ki-moon

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

12 October 2009

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to Her Excellency Ms. Ulla Tørnæs, Minister for Development Cooperation of Denmark.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Nambiar'.

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

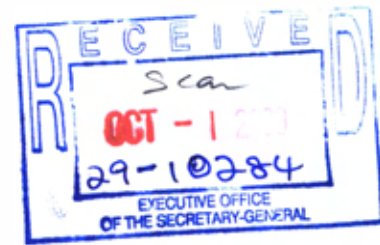
His Excellency
Mr. Carsten Staur
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations
New York



THE MINISTER FOR
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Action - PS
Info - POA
MO

DSG (Munich)
COPY Y/C



Date
22 September 2009

Dear Secretary-General,

Denmark warmly welcomes the establishment of a new consolidated Gender Entity headed by an Under-Secretary-General, as decided by the General Assembly on 14 September 2009 in their Resolution on System-Wide Coherence. I believe the resolution is an important step towards the achievement of the MDGs.

It is a long-awaited decision. Thus, for Denmark it is crucial that the United Nations under your strong leadership acts determinedly on the resolution. We urge you to immediately take the next important steps to realize the establishment of a new and stronger Gender Entity.

In our view, there is no time to lose. We believe that a new Gender Entity should be operational before the 2010-high-level plenary meeting on the MDGs in autumn 2010. This will send a clear and strong signal that the United Nations is determined to achieve gender equality and reach the MDGs.

With only five years to 2015, there is an urgent need to do something extra to empower women and ensure their equal rights. As part of the "MDG3 Global Call to Action", the Danish Government committed to double its aid allocations to gender equality and empowerment of women in 2010 and to continue to "do something extra" to keep gender equality as a key issue at the international agenda.

A year has passed since you received the MDG3 Torch. May I once again thank you for your personal commitment to this course. I enclose the newly released Mid-Term Status on the Implementation of the MDG3 Commitments.

H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations, N. Y. 10017
USA

I will be interested in discussing with you how Denmark can further support you in your efforts towards an immediate realization of a new Gender Entity. To this end, I am ready to discuss possible additional funding for the new Gender Entity. I hope to be able to meet you when you come to Copenhagen in October at the occasion of the meeting of the International Olympic Committee. Besides the establishment of the new Gender Entity, I would like to discuss the upcoming 2010-high-level plenary meeting on the MDGs and other relevant issues of joint interest.

I forward a copy of this letter to my colleagues in Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom, with whom I will discuss how to support an efficient follow-up on the Gender Entity Resolution.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ulla Tørnæs', written in a cursive style.

Ulla Tørnæs