



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

11 January 2008

Dear Ms. Heyzer,

I would like to express my gratitude for the warm welcome you extended to me and my delegation during our visit to Bangkok. Your hospitality, both on private and public occasions, was sincerely appreciated and my wife and I felt truly at home as we reacquainted ourselves with the sumptuous Thai cuisine you kindly served us.

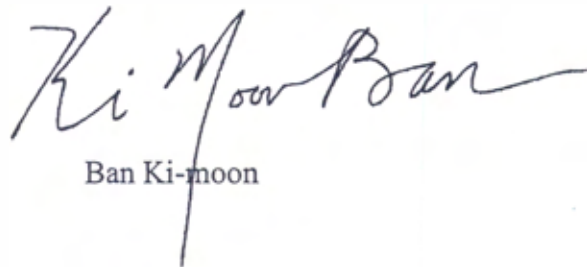
It was a great pleasure to meet with your senior team and a wider range of staff, and to be able to renew my commitment to the United Nations agenda for development. I was pleased to engage in a dialogue with United Nations Staff in Bangkok and to see first-hand the scope of work covered by ESCAP and the difference it makes in the lives of so many individuals throughout Asia and the Pacific.

Since your appointment a few months ago, you have already provided outstanding leadership through your initiation of reform efforts in ESCAP, underscoring my own system-wide reform. The work of ESCAP in promoting a regional approach to achieving climate change resilient societies, as well as your Green Growth approach towards sustainable development, have provided enormous support to my own efforts on climate change. I will look to ESCAP to become a major forum for follow-up to Bali, in articulating the Asia-Pacific perspective of a framework beyond 2012.

On a personal note, I would also wish to convey my thanks to the staff of ESCAP for the beautiful gifts they presented to me and my wife which will serve as an elegant memento of this memorable visit to Thailand.

Please accept my best wishes for the important work you and your colleagues are doing,

Yours sincerely,



Ban Ki-moon

Ms. Noeleen Heyzer
Executive Secretary
United Nations Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Bangkok