

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE TO THE FAMILY OF GREGORY ALEX

24 May 2013

24/05/13

This is a very sad occasion. The world has lost a dedicated United Nations staff member, Gregory Alex, the head of our Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration team in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I offer my sincere condolences to his family and friends.

As you all know, Gregory Alex was known as “Gromo.” He gave his life to the ideals of the United Nations, working for some three decades mostly in Africa. He was also a staff member at the World Bank. Up until a few months ago when he fell ill, he was still serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, helping the country to build a better future.

Gromo once said that he could measure the success of the disarmament programme by how many people were surrendering. But he added, “The fact that illegal combatants still inflict pain and suffering on Congolese populations means that we still have a lot of work to do.”

I did not have the honour of knowing Gromo – but I am sure that the best tribute we can pay to him is to finish the job he started – to bring greater peace and stability to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and our world. He leaves an inspiring legacy of compassion and commitment.

Please accept my sympathies and prayers for his peaceful rest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Ki Moon Ban' in a cursive style.
BAN/Ki-moon

HRH/02/002

13-04438 SENT TO FAMILY.

