



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

4 October 2011

Excellency,

I wish to thank you for your letter dated 17 August 2011, regarding the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), to be held in Perth, Australia from 28 to 30 October 2011. I very much would have liked to personally attend this important summit. Most unfortunately, I will not be able to do so this year.

The United Nations values its partnership with the Commonwealth. In 2009, I had the honour of participating in the CHOGM in Trinidad and Tobago, where we made a strong call for united action on climate change. In March this year, you and I held a fruitful discussion on a number of issues, including climate change, the challenges of small island states, diseases, and gender equality. Last month, I was delighted to join you at the Pacific Islands Forum summit, where we continued advocating strongly for action on these challenges. Our two Organizations have collaborated on electoral assistance to countries in the Asia and Pacific region, and I am pleased to note that officials of our Secretariats have remained in regular contact on key issues of common concerns, including Fiji, Bougainville and Sri Lanka.

Given the importance of the upcoming Meeting, I have designated Ms. Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, to represent me. You may wish to note that she was a member of the Commonwealth Commission on Respect and Understanding chaired by Professor Amartya Sen, which published its report "Civil Paths to Peace" in November 2007. I trust that she would make useful contributions in advancing the discussions on key international issues, including climate change and sustainable development.

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

Ki Moon Ban

His Excellency
Mr. Kamallesh Sharma
Secretary-General of the Commonwealth
London



11-07964

SCH/08/006



**Response to Invitation: Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting,
Perth, 28-30 October 2011**

Rommel Maranan to: secretary-general

05/10/2011 12:04 PM

Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada, Sebastien Lawson, Anoulak Kittikhoun

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached scan of the formal communication from the Secretary-General to H.E. Mr. Kamalesh Sharma, in response to the invitation to the Secretary-General to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, to be held in Perth, Australia from 28 and 30 October 2011.

The original has been sent via mail.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Rommel Christopher Maranan

Scheduling Office of the Secretary-General

Executive Office of the Secretary-General

United Nations

Room NL-3015AB

Tel: 917-367-4726

e-mail: maranan@un.org



Response to Invitation_CHOGM.pdf



For Advice on Representation and Draft Response: Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting_Australia, 28-30 October 2011

Alexandra Barahona Posada to: Roselyn Akombe

28/09/2011 06:24 PM

Cc: Suman Pradhan, Jessica Serraris, Stephen Paparo, Sebastien Lawson, Rommel Maranan

Dear Roselyn,

The Secretary-General will not be able to attend the above mentioned meeting (invitation attached for ease of reference). We would be grateful if DPA can provide and advice on the following:

- (1) Advice the need of representation (i.e. if representative is recommended, kindly provide the name and confirmed availability of the senior level official who would be available to attend on SG's behalf)
- (2) Draft response for the review and signature of the Secretary-General
- (3) Advice on whether the Secretary-General should send a message to the event

I would be most grateful to receive the above from DPA's front office by latest noon Thursday, 6 October 2011.



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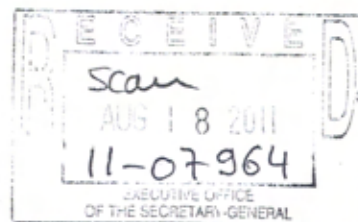
Thank you,

Alex

Recd
ref



COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY-GENERAL



17 August 2011

ACTION *LYC*
COPY *UN*

Dear Secretary-General,

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
Perth, Australia, 28-30 October 2011

I am writing to extend a cordial invitation to you to nominate a representative to attend the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), to be held in Perth, Australia, from 28-30 October 2011, as my Special Guest. I am, of course, mindful that you had indicated to me during our last meeting that you would be unable to attend the CHOGM personally.

The theme for this year's CHOGM is 'Building National Resilience, Building Global Resilience'. It is envisaged that the focus of the Meeting will be on building political and economic resilience within the Commonwealth, strengthening Commonwealth institutions, and enhancing the Commonwealth's voice on global issues of importance to our members.

Your representative would be able to attend the formal CHOGM Opening Ceremony and observe the first Executive Session for Heads of Government on Friday 28 October, as well as the concluding Executive Session on Sunday 30 October. There would be an additional opportunity to meet Commonwealth leaders at a Reception that I will host at lunchtime on 28 October and possibly at some other social events in the CHOGM programme as well. They would also be able to observe the pre-CHOGM Foreign Ministers Meeting, which will take place on 26-27 October.

I would be grateful for an early response so that we may inform the Government of Australia in order to facilitate the booking of accommodation. The Government of Australia will extend the usual courtesies for arrival and departure once they are apprised of your representative's travel plans.

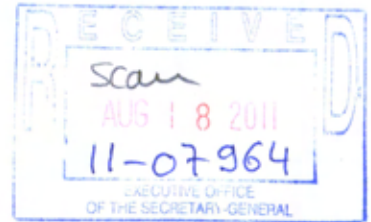
HE Mr Ban Ki-moon

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SC H/08/006



**COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY-GENERAL**



17 August 2011

ACTION 44C
COPY UN

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Perth, Australia, 28-30 October 2011**

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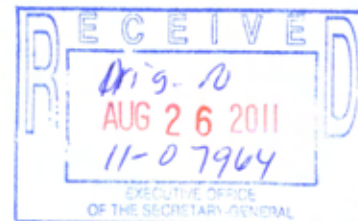
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COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL

17 August 2011

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Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting Perth, Australia, 28-30 October 2011

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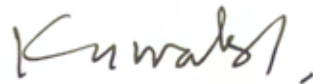


A Note on Administrative Arrangements for Special Guests will be conveyed in due course.

I look forward to hearing from you soon, and also to seeing you next month at the Pacific Islands Forum Summit in Auckland.

With warm personal regards,

Best wishes,

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

Kamalesh Sharma

HE Mr Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
One United Nations Plaza
New York NY 10017
United States of America