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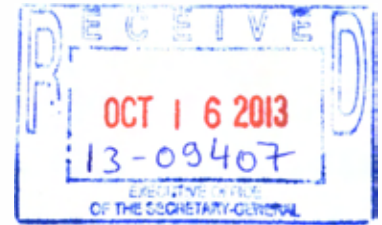
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Mr. Yoon
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ROYAL NORWEGIAN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of Foreign Affairs



Oslo, // October 2013

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

My term as Minister of Foreign Affairs will soon come to an end, ~~when~~ the present Norwegian Government steps down on 14 October 2013.

I have greatly appreciated the close **cooperation** we have had during my time as Minister of Foreign Affairs. The UN plays an indispensable normative role in the international community and it is of crucial interest to Norway that it continues to do so. In this **respect**, I would like to thank you for your commitment and leadership in assuring that ~~the~~ UN adjusts in order ~~to~~ meet the global and regional challenges of our time. It will be very much **needed** also in the years ahead. As I have stated many times before, I believe member states should give the **Secretary-General** and the Secretariat increased flexibility.

I greatly appreciate the exchanges I have had with you during my tenure and wish you every success with the continuation of your second period as Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Yours sincerely

Espen Barth Eide

HE Mr Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York, NY 10017



PRT/02/001