



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR GENETIC ENGINEERING AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

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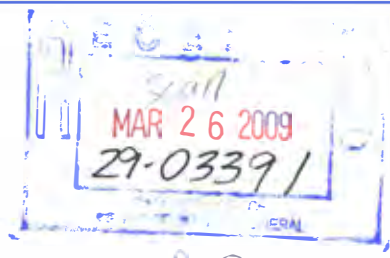
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H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
United Nations Secretary-General
United Nations
One UN Plaza
New York – NY
U.S.A.

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March 17, 2009

Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the pleasure to refer to your kind letter dated 4 March 2009, and apologize for this delayed reply, due to extensive travels overseas that kept me away from the office in the last couple of weeks.

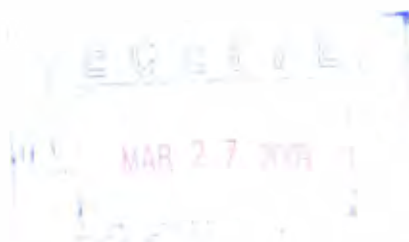
I will be honoured to attend the high-level meeting in New York in May and to provide my own personal insight in the Biotechnology Initiative you are launching, also in the light of the experience developed by the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology since its inception, more than twenty years ago.

I will communicate my attendance to Ms. Novoseltseva accordingly and sincerely look forward to having the honour of meeting with you personally.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the expression of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Francisco Baralle
Director-General



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