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DSG

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General
United Nations Headquarters
405 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017
United States of America

May 23, 2012

Dear Secretary General Ban Ki-moon,

I have the pleasure to refer to your letter dated May 17, 2012, inviting me to join you at the United Nations system Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) side event entitled "*UN System: Together for the Future We Want*" to be held on Friday, June 22, 2012, during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

The date of the side event coincides with the Diplomatic Conference that the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is convening, in cooperation with the Government of the People's Republic of China in Beijing, which aims to adopt an international treaty protecting the intellectual property rights of audiovisual performers.

Since my presence in Beijing would be required during this Diplomatic Conference, I regret to inform you that I shall be unable to attend CEB side event on June 22, 2012.

I hope that the side event will be successful in attaining its objective of building on the CEB statement to the Rio+20 Conference, and look forward to hearing of its outcome.

With best wishes, Yours sincerely,

Francis Gurry
Director General



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