



**Response to Invitation to the Secretary-General: High-Level Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Side Event, New York, 11 December 2012**

Jackilyn Punsal to: nyv-cdp

26/11/2012 12:22 PM

Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada, Mary Sack

From: Jackilyn Punsal/NY/UNO  
To: nyv-cdp@minbuza.nl  
Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Mary Sack/NY/UNO@UNHQ

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Dear Madelon,

Please convey the attached scan of formal communication from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to H.E. Mr. Herman Schaper, in regard to the above-mentioned subject.

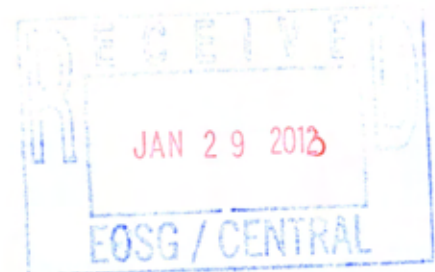


Response to invitation\_High-Level LGBT side event.pdf

The original has been sent via special mail.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Jackilyn Punsal  
Scheduling Office of the Secretary-General  
Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
United Nations  
Room NL-3015AA  
Tel: 212-963-7428  
e-mail: punsal@un.org



12-08761  
SCH/08/002;com/11/001



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

20 November 2012

Excellency,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 18 September 2012, inviting him to make the introductory statement at the high-level Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender side event on the occasion of Human Rights Day, to be held in New York on 11 December 2012.

I am pleased to inform you that the Secretary-General has accepted your kind invitation. The Scheduling Office of the Secretary-General will be in touch with your office to discuss the relevant arrangements for his participation in this event. He looks forward to seeing you and other distinguished participants at the event.

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

Jan Eliasson  
Deputy Secretary-General

His Excellency  
Mr. Herman Schaper  
Permanent Representative of the Kingdom  
of the Netherlands to the United Nations  
New York



12-08761 SCH/08/002 Cor/11/001







Re: For DESA and UNFPA views: High-level LGBT side event in New York on the occasion of Human Rights Day

Delia Barcelona to: Mary Sack

05/11/2012 05:46 PM

Cc: Juwang Zhu, Kay Govia, ojuolape, Jackilyn Punsal, Alexandra Barahona Posada, Babatunde Osotimehin, "Kate Gilmore"

Sender	Date	Subject
Mary Sack	01/11/2012 03:08 PM	For DESA and UNFPA views: High-le Day
Delia Barcelona	01/11/2012 05:03 PM	Re: For DESA and UNFPA vie Human Rights Day
Juwang Zhu	05/11/2012 04:33 PM	Re: For DESA and UNFPA vie Human Rights Day

Dear Mary,

First of all, I hope all is well with you and colleagues in the EOSG after hurricane Sandy. Some of us are just able to return to work today, so we are pleased to be able to meet your deadline for feedback on this today.

In answer to your request for advice regarding the invitation issued by the cross-regional group of like-minded countries for the Secretary-General to participate at a High-level LGBT side event on the occasion of the International Human Rights Day, UNFPA welcomes your approach and notes this invitation with interest.

The invitation is consistent with the SecretaryGeneral's broad leadership and advocacy role on all human rights, including on the issue of discrimination and violence on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. He has already made public pronouncements on similar occasions, such as the International Human Rights Day of 10 December 2010, and has intervened with a recorded message before Member States at the Human Rights Council in March 2012

A continued engagement by the SG with this issue is welcome as he is the most authoritative UN voice and can speak from a broad perspective on an issue related to the international human rights framework that rests on the recognition that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, without distinction of any kind on any grounds, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, birth or other status.

The theme for Human Rights Day this year will be 'Participation in Public Life', which

lends itself to examining more closely the implications of discrimination and violence against LGBT people in their ability to exercise their fundamental human right to effectively participate in each and every sphere of public life when that right is denied. As far as UNFPA is concerned, it is undeniable that discrimination against LGBT individuals—or those perceived to be—will also harm their ability and basic human right to attain the highest standards of health.

Attention should be paid to whether this group of like-minded countries is representative enough to justify the participation of the Secretary-General, noticing, in particular, the absence of any developing Member States from the Arab world, Asia and Africa, including champions of this issue, such as South Africa. A final remaining question would be whether there are other competing opportunities for his leadership on the occasions of other events and/or other themes that he would prefer to prioritize in light of the broader theme of 'participation in public life' marking this year's Human Rights Day. Whichever the final decision will be, we are certain it will be wise as usual. UNFPA stands ready to support activities that fall within the mandate Member States assigned it in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

Best regards,  
Delia

On 11/1/2012 3:08 PM, Mary Sack wrote:

Dear Juwang and Delia,

The views and recommendations of UNFPA and DESA are sought regarding the request for the Secretary-General to participate in the above mentioned event. (invitation attached for ease of reference).

Please provide your views and recommendation by **Monday, 05 November**.

Thank you and best,  
Mary

Mary Sack  
Political Affairs Officer  
Executive Office of the Secretary-General












Re: For **DESA** and UNFPA views: High-level LGBT side event in New York on the occasion of Human Rights Day

Juwang Zhu to: Mary Sack

05/11/2012 04:33 PM

Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada, barcelona, Jackilyn Punsal, Kay Govia, ojuolape

Sender	Date	Subject
 Mary Sack	01/11/2012 03:08 PM	 For DESA and UNFPA views: High-le Day
 Delia Barcelona	01/11/2012 05:03 PM	 Re: For DESA and UNFPA vie Human Rights Day
 Juwang Zhu	05/11/2012 04:33 PM	  Re: For DESA and UNFPA vie Human Rights Day

Dear Mary,

The feedback of DESA colleagues can be summarized as follows:

The event has a narrow focus for commemorating the Human Rights Day. The UN norms on Human Rights are much broader in scope. At the same time EU is an important constituency. The SG may consider sending a message instead of personally attending the meeting.

Hope this helps.

Best, Juwang

Mary Sack

Dear Juwang and Delia, The views and recommend...

01/11/2012 15:08:54

From: Mary Sack/NY/UNO  
To: Juwang Zhu/NY/UNO@UNHQ, barcelona@unfpa.org  
Cc: Kay Govia/NY/UNO@UNHQ, ojuolape@unfpa.org, Jackilyn Punsal/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
Date: 01/11/2012 15:08  
Subject: For DESA and UNFPA views: High-level LGBT side event in New York on the occasion of Human Rights Day

Dear Juwang and Delia,

The views and recommendations of UNFPA and DESA are sought regarding the request for the Secretary-General to participate in the above mentioned event. (invitation attached for ease of reference).

Please provide your views and recommendation by **Monday, 05 November**.

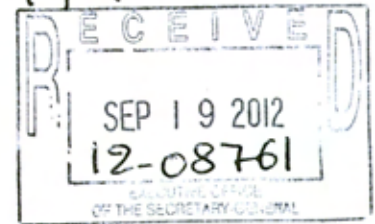
Thank you and best,  
Mary



12-08761.PDF

Mary Sack

MS - pls seek advice of DASA + UNFPA  
(cc: ABP)



Kingdom of the Netherlands

ACTION JA

New York, 18 September 2012

COPY RA

Mr. Secretary-General,

A cross-regional group of like-minded countries that includes the attached countries and the Delegation of the European Union has started working on the organisation of the yearly high-level LGBT side event in New York on the occasion of Human Rights Day. As in past years, the organizers are collaborating with and have the support of international NGOs like Human Rights Watch and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. We identified either the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> December (13.15 – 14.30 hrs) as possible dates to hold the side event.

The event's overarching theme is ending violence, discrimination and criminal sanctions on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. It is our intention to focus this year's side event on the essential role of leadership in advancing equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people all around the world. We are, therefore, aiming for the participation of high-profile governmental, celebrity, civil society and religious leaders in a moderated panel discussion so they can pronounce themselves openly in support of LGBT rights.

Given your historic leadership on this important topic, we would like to invite you to participate in this event by making an introductory statement, which could highlight the responsibility of the United Nations and its Member States to tackle human rights violations against LGBT people. We feel that such a message would not only greatly enhance the impact and visibility of the event, but would also encourage other leaders to do the same: openly calling for an end to violence, discrimination and criminal sanctions against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
1<sup>st</sup> Avenue 46<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, NL-3019  
New York, NY 10017

SG OFFICE

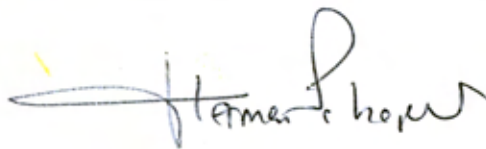
#8540  
8-1172

SC#1081002; COM/11/001

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us, should you have any queries on this request or require further practical information.

We look forward to a positive reply from your side and an indication which of the two suggested dates would suit your schedule.

Yours sincerely,



Herman Schaper  
Permanent Representative  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Thomas Mayr-Harting  
Head of the Delegation  
of the European Union

SOSG COMMENT

For SG's approval ☒  
For SG's attention ☐  
For SG's information ☐  
For SG's signature ☐

Subject:  
Invitation to SG from the PR of the  
Netherlands and the Head of the  
Delegation of the European Union to  
attend a high-level LGBT side event  
on the occasion of Human Rights Day,  
either on 10 or 11 Dec 2012  
Date: 08/11/12 JA  
Comment (if applicable):

Afternoon of  
11 December will be  
explored. Recommended  
Log number: 12-00761  
DESA, UNFPA, OHCHR  
speech monitors.

CdC

Recommended Action: Approve  
Date: 08/11/12

Comment  
(if applicable):



SG

Approved ☒  
Noted ☐  
Seen ☐  
Signed ☐  
Date: 08/11/12

→ ABP, IK, TG  
pls. schedule on  
11 December  
3:30-4:30

JA 08/11





Kingdom of the Netherlands



ACTION JA  
COPY RA

New York, 18 September 2012

Mr. Secretary-General,

A cross-regional group of like-minded countries that includes the attached countries and the Delegation of the European Union has started working on the organisation of the yearly high-level LGBT side event in New York on the occasion of Human Rights Day. As in past years, the organizers are collaborating with and have the support of international NGOs like Human Rights Watch and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. We identified either the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> December (13.15 – 14.30 hrs) as possible dates to hold the side event.

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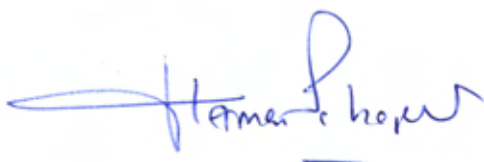
H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
1<sup>st</sup> Avenue 46<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, NL-3019  
New York, NY 10017

SCH/08/002; COM/11/001

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us, should you have any queries on this request or require further practical information.

We look forward to a positive reply from your side and an indication which of the two suggested dates would suit your schedule.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Herman Schaper', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.


Herman Schaper  
Permanent Representative  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Mayr-Harting', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Thomas Mayr-Harting  
Head of the Delegation  
of the European Union

- ARGENTINA
- BRAZIL
- CROATIA
- FRANCE
- ISRAEL
- JAPAN
- THE NETHERLANDS
- NEW ZEALAND
- NORWAY
- UNITED STATES










Re: For CdC and Speechwriters advice: SG delivery of opening remarks at an LGBT event on the occasion of Human Rights Day, 10 or 11 Dec 

Richard Amdur to: Mary Sack

22/10/2012 03:32 PM

Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada, Josiane Ambiehl, Patrick Carey, Sanghwa Lee, Yvette Blanco, "Jessica Jiji", "Ruxandra Ferascu", Stephen Paparo

History: This message has been replied to.

Sender	Date	Subject
 Mary Sack	19/10/2012 07:08 PM	 For CdC and Speechwriters advice: S Human Rights Day, 10 or 11 Dec
 Richard Amdur	22/10/2012 03:32 PM	   Re: For CdC and Speechwriter occasion of Human Rights Day
 Mary Sack	22/10/2012 03:42 PM	Re: For CdC and Speech occasion of Human Righ

many thanks, mary. we speechwriters strongly support the sg's attendance at this event. sg has carved out an important, visible and very forward-leaning advocacy role on this issue, and this event would sustain the momentum, advance the cause, etc. we are happy to fill you in further if necessary. you may also wish to touch base with ohchr, with whom we have worked very closely in this area.  
best,  
richard

Mary Sack

Dear Richard and Yvette, The SG has been invi...

19/10/2012 07:08:32 PM

From: Mary Sack/NY/UNO  
To: Yvette Blanco/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Richard Amdur/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
Cc: Josiane Ambiehl/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Patrick Carey/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Sanghwa Lee/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
Date: 19/10/2012 07:08 PM  
Subject: For CdC and Speechwriters advice: SG delivery of opening remarks at an LGBT event on the occasion of Human Rights Day, 10 or 11 Dec

Dear Richard and Yvette,

The SG has been invited to give opening remarks at an LGBT event on the occasion of Human Rights Day to take place either the 10th or 11th of December at 1:15 (date tbd based on SG's availability)

The SG has indicated his view on the request on the itemized list No. 12-08783 writing *'If I will be in NY'*

The recommendation of the Speechwriters Unit and CdC's office is sought regarding this request.

I attach the original invitation for reference.

Best,  
Mary



12-08761.PDF

Mary Sack

Dear Mary

Can you follow up on these two requests?

Thank you, Josiane

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Katarina Mansson

**Sent:** 10/18/2012 02:39 PM EDT

**To:** Josiane Ambiehl; Sebastien Lawson

**Subject:** Fw: Outstanding LGBT-related invitations to SG

Dear both,

In this wake of human rights invitations and requests, please kindly let me know whether you have any news on the invitation by the Govt of NL and others for SG to attend the December human rights event on LGTB.

With many thanks.

Best,  
Katarina

----- Forwarded by Katarina Mansson/NY/UNO on 18/10/2012 02:37 PM -----

**From:** Charles Radcliffe/NY/UNO

**To:** Katarina Mansson/NY/UNO@UNHQ

**Cc:** Jessica Jiji/NY/UNO@UNHQ

**Date:** 16/10/2012 09:18 AM

**Subject:** Outstanding LGBT-related invitations to SG

OHCHR

Dear Katarina,

Would you be able to help chase up the status of two outstanding invitations/requests to the SG: from UN-GLOBE requesting a meeting on issues facing LGBT UN staff (request sent in August); and the more recent invitation from the Dutch Ambassador on behalf of a cross-regional group of States asking the SG to deliver opening remarks at an event at UNHQ on or around HR Day (this is the event with celebrity participation...)

Of these, the most immediately urgent is the invitation to the December event, since the SG's early confirmation will help us secure other panelists, but would also like to make sure the UN-GLOBE request isn't lost on the mix, since they have been waiting a very long time and deserve a prompt response now.

Thanks very much for helping track these requests. As you know, we strongly recommend that he accept both invitations. I am working on an almost daily basis with the Netherlands and other missions on the December event and we really would benefit from some clarity on the SG's willingness and availability to

participate.

Many thanks,

Charles



**Charles Radcliffe**  
**Chief, Global Issues Section**

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

United Nations (Secretariat Building, S-1305)

New York, NY 10017, USA

**Email:** [radcliffe@un.org](mailto:radcliffe@un.org) **Web:** [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)

**Tel:** +1 212 963 4953



12-08761.PDF





## Correspondence Log # 12-08761

Logged by: Maria Chacon

From	The Netherlands Herman Schaper PR European Union, Thomas Mayr-Harting, Head of the Delegation	In / Out	Incoming
		Log status	Logged
Through		Incoming Ref#	n/a
To	SG	Outgoing Ref#	n/a
cc		Case #	SCH/08/002; COM/11/001


Correspondence  
Subject

They inform that a cross-regional group of like-minded countries that includes the attached countries and the Delegation of the European Union has started working on the organisation of the yearly high-level LGBT side event in New York on the occasion of Human Rights Day. They identified either the 10th or 11th December (1:15 - 2:30 p.m.) as possible dates to hold the side event. The event's overarching theme is ending violence, discrimination and criminal sanctions on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. They invite the SG to participate in this event by making an introductory statement, which could highlight the responsibility of the UN and its Member States to tackle human rights violations against LGBT people. They look forward to a positive reply from the SG side and an indication which of the two suggested dates would suit his schedule.

Date of Correspondence	18-Sep-2012	Reply by	Reply date not specified
Date received	19-Sep-2012	Reply status	n/a
Distribution	Josiane Ambiehl/NY/UNO; cc: Richard Amdur/NY/UNO		

Editors	Document author Maria Chacon
Viewers	Viewing of scanned document(s) or attachment(s) is open to all users of this CorLOG.

**Document**

File attachments	 12-08761.PDF
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**Audit Trail**

Entered by	Maria Chacon on 19/09/2012 01:52 PM
Edited last by	Rosemary Colaco on 21/09/2012 03:08 PM

19/09/2012 at 3:08:55 PM - Track note by Rommel Maranan: from Central to MS cc: LSH

19/09/2012 at 6:41:59 PM - Track note by Rommel Maranan: from LSH to MS: please seek advice of DESA &amp; UNFPA

21/09/2012 at 3:08:42 PM - Track note by Rosemary Colaco: SG writes on itemized list No. 12-08783 for this item: If I will be in NY. given to JA to handle.