UNESCO
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POSTAL ADDRESS—ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
CABLE ADDRESS—ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE: UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

23 January 2008

Dear Mr. Matsuura,

Thank you for your letter to the Secretary-General received on 8 January, in which you asked him to provide a videotaped message for the opening ceremony of the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) 2008 Global Launch Event, to be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 12 February 2008.

While the Secretary-General greatly appreciates the initiative and leadership of UNESCO for the IYPE, I regret to inform you that his schedule at this time is such that he will be unable to record such a message. Please allow me to thank you and convey our best wishes for a successful event.

Yours sincerely,

Meyer

Michael Meyer
Director of Communications

Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura
Director-General
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Paris

28-00240

Telephone: +1 212 963 9220 Fax: +1 212 963 5965
Email: meyer@un.org

Annika Savill/NY/UNO
23/01/2008 11:04 AM

To Ruxandra Ferascu/NY/UNO@UNHQ
cc
bcc
Subject advice to decline UNESCO request for SG video message at Global Launch Event for the UN Year of Planet Earth 2008, Paris 12 - 13 February 2008

-----Forwarded by Annika Savill/NY/UNO on 01/23/2008 11:04AM -----

To: Annika Savill/NY/UNO@UNHQ
From: Michael Pan/NY/UNO
Date: 01/23/2008 10:39AM
Subject: Fw: informal request for advice on UNESCO request for SG video message at Global Launch Event for the UN Year of Planet Earth 2008, Paris 12 - 13 February 2008

Bob is of the view that this should be declined. --Mike

----- Forwarded by Michael Pan/NY/UNO on 23/01/2008 10:39 AM -----

Annika Savill/NY/UNO
22/01/2008 10:50 AM

ToRobert Orr/NY/UNO, Michael Pan/NY/UNO
cc
Subjectinformal request for advice on UNESCO request for SG video message at Global Launch Event for the UN Year of Planet Earth 2008, Paris 12 - 13 February 2008

Bob,

Pse see attached. I'm not sure the SG needs to do this. Adnan's advice below inconclusive. What do you think?

Thanks,

Annika

----- Forwarded by Annika Savill/NY/UNO on 18/01/2008 05:18 PM -----

Adnan Z. Amin/NY/UNO

18/01/2008 03:01 PM

ToAnnika Savill/NY/UNO@UNHQ

cc

SubjectRe: informal request for advice on UNESCO request for SG video message at Global Launch Event for the UN Year of Planet Earth 2008, Paris 12 - 13 February 2008[.]

Dear Annika,
good to hear from you and Happy New Year.
The UNESCO event will touch on Climate which is one of the SGs major priorities, but it appears that the audience will be largely a scientific one and the event will not necessarily be of political significance. If the approach to video messages is highly selective, then this may not qualify, however, if the SG would want to reach a broad audience for his climate and environmental message, then this audience would be very receptive.
Regards
Adnan

Adnan Z. Amin
Director
UN Chief Executives Board Secretariat
Tel.: 1-212-963-8138/39
Fax.: 1-212-963-4190

Annika Savill/NY/UNO

Annika Savill/N

ToAdnan Z. Amin/NY/UNO@UNHQ

cc

Subjectinformal request for advice on UNESCO request for SG video message

Y/ UN O

at Global Launch Event for the UN Year of Planet Earth 2008, Paris 12 - 13 February 2008

18/ 01/ 20 08 02: 00 PM

Dear Adnan,

I hope all is well with you. I would welcome your thoughts on the attached. FYI, the SG records video messages on a restrictive basis to highly deserving events.

Thanks and all best wishes,

Annika

Annika Savill
Deputy Director, Speechwriting
Executive Office of the Secretary-General
United Nations
Room S-3850D
New York, NY 10017
Tel: 1 212 963 6475
Fax: 1 212 963 5965
Email: savill@un.org

SDOC1803.pdf

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Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

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la science et la culture

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la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
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للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

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RECEIVED
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JAN - 8 2008
28-00240
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Director-General

Mr Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
U.S.A.

Ref.: DG/2.7/07/120

- 8 JAN 2008

Dear Secretary-General,

In line with the UN Declaration of the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) 2008, under Resolution 60/192, I am happy to inform you that as lead UN agency for the IYPE, UNESCO, in collaboration with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), is organizing a Global Launch Event for the UN Year 2008. This event will take place at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 12 and 13 February 2008 and will last a day and a half.

This UN proclamation provided a unique opportunity for the geoscientific community to highlight the important contributions of the Earth sciences to generate safer, healthier and wealthier societies by reducing the risk from natural hazards and by using the Earth's resources in a more sustainable way. In this respect, the Global Launch Event will address many of the challenges facing the international community in the twenty-first century.

About a thousand selected guests will attend the IYPE Global Launch Event, including heads of state, ministers, heads of geoscientific institutes and organizations, leaders in industry and renowned scientists. The speakers will share their views on human-induced problems relating to the Earth and will raise issues concerning their solution or mitigation. They will debate these issues with about 300 students from around the world who are winners of the IYPE Student Contest.

Three issues of major societal relevance will be highlighted during the Event: "Population growth and climate change: challenges for Planet Earth"; "Earth Resources: threat or treat?"; and "Geohazards: minimizing risk, maximizing awareness". For your information, a preliminary programme is attached. Publications about the ten IYPE themes (groundwater, health, climate, resources, hazards, the oceans, cities, soils, deep Earth, and life) and other relevant information may be consulted on the IYPE website: www.yearofplanetearth.org.

.../...

7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP, France
Tél. : +33 (0)1 45 68 10 00
Fax : +33 (0)1 45 67 16 90

www.unesco.org

In this regard, I have the honour to invite you to send a video message for the launch, which will be presented at the opening ceremony on 12 February.

After the IYPE Global Launch Event in Paris, similar events of a more regional character will be held in several countries in 2008. This will lead to raising awareness of the contribution of geosciences to sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,

Koïchiro Matsuura

Enclosure: 1

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

planetearth
Earth Sciences for Society

IUGS

Partner of International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)

IYPE Launch Event Tentative Programme

February 12th and 13th 2008, UNESCO Headquarters

Day 1

09.00	Registration of guests at UNESCO Fontenoy and coffee in front of Room I
10.00	- Opening by Master of Ceremony, Ted Nield, Chair IYPE Outreach Programme Committee
	- Welcome address by UNESCO Director-General, Koïchiro Matsuura
	- Welcome address by President of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), Zhang Hongren
	- Welcome address by Chair of IYPE, Larry Woodfork
	- Introduction by French President Nicolas Sarkozy or his representative
	- Statements by Heads of State/Ministers
	- Formal opening of the IYPE by UN Heads
	- Introduction to the sessions by Aubrey Manning, Independent Correspondent
13.00	Lunch and Press Conference
15.00	Cultural Event
15.20	**Theme 1: Population growth and climate change: challenges for Planet Earth**
	- Introduction by A. Manning, moderator
	- Student 1 reads his/her winning essay
	- Views on theme by Representative of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

- Views on theme by Prof. Ghislain de Marsily, French Academy of Sciences

16.20 Coffee/Tea breaks

16.40 - Views on theme by Mayor of Delhi, India, Ms Arti Mehra

- Views on theme by a Minister

- Discussion with audience chaired by A. Manning, moderator

- Concluding remarks by moderator

18.00 Presentation of Paris Declaration

Evening Reception

Day 2

09.00 - Room opened

09.30 - Opening by Master of Ceremony, Ted Nield

- Introduction by Professor M. Sheya, Minister Plenipotentiary, United Republic of Tanzania

09.45 **Theme 2: Earth resources: threat or treat?**

- Introduction by moderator, Marina Mielczarek, Independent Correspondent

- Student reads his/her winning essay

- Views on theme by President of TOTAL, Thierry Desmarest

- Views on theme by Dr Mark Myers, Director of US Geological Survey

- Views on theme by Vice Minister Wang Shouxiang of the Ministry of Land & Resources, China

- Discussion with audience chaired by M. Mielczarek

- Concluding remarks by M. Mielczarek

11.20 Coffee/tea breaks

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The Director-General

RECEIVED
JAN 16 2008
UNESCO OFFICE
IN NEW YORK

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JAN 14 2008
28-00240

Mr Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY 10017
U.S.A.

-8 JAN 2008

Ref.: DG/2.7/07/120

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- Views on theme by Dr Mark Myers, Director of US Geological Survey

- Views on theme by Vice Minister Wang Shouxiang of the Ministry of Land & Resources, China

- Discussion with audience chaired by M. Mielczarek

- Concluding remarks by M. Mielczarek

11.20 Coffee/tea breaks

11.40	**Theme 3: Geohazards: minimizing risk, maximizing awareness**
	- Introduction by moderator, Marina Mielczarek
	- Student reads his/her winning essay
	- Views on theme by Dr Peter Höppe, Münich Reinsurance
	- Views on theme by Prof. Sospeter Muhongo, Director Regional Office of International Council for Sciences (ICSU) South Africa
	- Views on theme by a Minister
	- Discussion with audience chaired by M. Mielczarek, moderator
	- Concluding remarks by moderator
13.15	Closing remarks by UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura
13.25	video message - Sir Arthur C. Clarke of Sir Arthur C. Clarke Foundation

04-01-08EdM