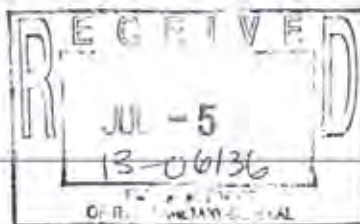


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rfsu

Stockholm, 5 July 2013

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

Secretary General's report on post-2015 development agenda

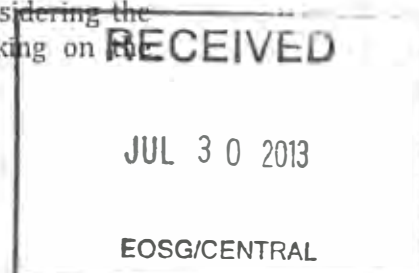
We attach great importance to your report that is currently being prepared for the UN General Assembly Special Event in September 2013 on the MDG and post-MDG framework. We see your report as a culmination of all the reports that you have commissioned recently including the Report of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on post MDGs; the Report of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN); and the Report on Corporate Sustainability of the Global Compact. It is clear that your report, and the priorities highlighted within it, will play a major role in shaping the post-2015 International Development Agenda.

The High-level Panel Report makes a strong call for a goal: Empower Girls and Women **and Achieve** Gender Equality (Illustrative goal 2) and for a target: Ensure universal sexual and reproductive health and rights (Illustrative target 4d). The SDSN report also highlights both of these issues and the Global Compact report includes women's empowerment and universal reproductive health services in its design for Sustainable Development Goals.

As a European organization, we would also point out two important events that emphasize the importance of making sexual and reproductive health and rights a key element of the post-2015 agenda. First of all, the high-level UN ECE regional conference **Enabling Choices: Population Priorities for the 21st Century** in Geneva on 1 and 2 July 2013, organized in collaboration with UNFPA as part of the ICPD Operational Review Process. The Chair's summary of this conference highlights the importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights, access to sexual and reproductive health services, as well as the right to access comprehensive sexuality education.

Related to this the recently adopted European Union Council Conclusions on Post-2015 stresses sexual and reproductive health and rights: "We remain committed to the promotion, protection and fulfillment of all human rights and to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the outcomes of their review conferences and in this context sexual and reproductive health and rights."

Knowing your interest in both these important concerns and considering the above inputs, we would like to encourage you to continue taking on



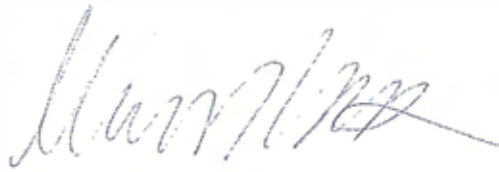
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leadership to ensure that this broader agenda on women's and girls' health and rights is part of the post-2015 process by supporting:

- A stand alone goal on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as a cross cutting gender equality perspective throughout the post-2015 agenda.
- Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, especially in the context of human rights and the empowerment of young people and women as a policy priority, based on sound research, experience and expertise.

We look forward to reading your report, as it will be a valuable synthesis of the most important international development priorities, and hope to see women's rights and empowerment and sexual and reproductive health and rights clearly identified within it as a core priority for the coming decades.

Yours sincerely,



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