

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**REMARKS FOR BREAKFAST
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS COUNTRY TEAM**

Moscow, 21 March 2014

7:00

Colleagues,

Luigi Ryszard Tomenda ONCHR
Mr. Migliorini

It is good to see you. I am glad to have this opportunity to touch base with you during my diplomatic mission to the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

As you know I held extensive talks yesterday with President Putin, Foreign Minister Lavrov ~~and other senior officials.~~

Later today in Kiev I will meet with Acting President Oleksandr Turchynov, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and other officials. I will also meet with members of the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission and representatives of civil society.

My goal is to encourage all parties to resolve the current crisis peacefully. I have consistently called for a solution that is guided by the principles of the United Nations Charter.

[Update on Ukraine/Crimea situation]

Of course, this is one of several crises on our agenda. We continue struggling with the horrendous situation in Syria and the fighting in the Central African Republic and in South Sudan.

This is also a crucial period for the development agenda. The deadline for the Millennium Development Goals is next year.

Member States are deep in discussion about a post-2015 development agenda, including a set of sustainable development goals. Next year is also the time when Member States have promised to reach a new agreement on climate change. I am convening a Climate Summit on September 23rd of this year in order to generate momentum for that agreement and to highlight solutions that can help us chart a safer course.

All of this is taking place against a backdrop of dramatic changes in the global landscape.

People and issues are more closely linked than ever before. The increasing complexity of the challenges combined with financial constraints is placing the global system under unprecedented stress. At the same time, there are tremendous opportunities ahead if we can find ways to work together more collaboratively.

I therefore attach great importance to your work.

The UN and Russia partnership has a special role, beyond the political agenda.

Russia continues strengthening its position as a donor
in the international arena.

Although Russia is not a Delivering as One country,
I understand that inter-agency coordination is quite strong.

I am pleased to note that you continue to implement joint
initiatives to raise awareness on various issues,
such as human rights instruments and norms,
and to advocate for global standards and UN priorities.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication at this difficult time.

Now I would be interested to hear about your experiences, successes, challenges and concerns.

[END]