

UNITED NATIONS



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

17 January 2012

Dear Mr. Coatsworth,

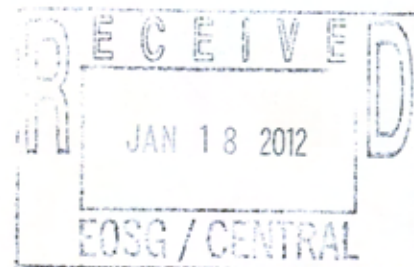
On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 4 January 2012, inviting him to deliver the graduation speech at the School of International and Public Affairs of Columbia University, which will take place in New York on 17 May 2012.

The Secretary-General appreciates your kind invitation. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that he will not be able to honour your request, in view of prior commitments and pressing demands already on his schedule on the said date. Nevertheless, allow me to take this opportunity to convey his best wishes for a successful event.

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

Mr. John H. Coatsworth
Dean and Professor
History and International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
New York



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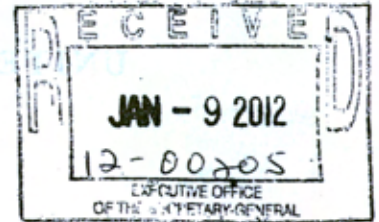
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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



January 4, 2012

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
760 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

ACTION COPY UYC MRM

Dear Secretary-General Ban:

On behalf of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), I am honored to invite you to deliver SIPA's graduation speech this spring. The ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, May 17 at 11AM on Columbia's campus. We expect to have 750 graduating international policy students as well as faculty, friends, and members of the press. Your participation would ensure an impressive turnout and an inspiring day.

A word about SIPA: We are the largest and most global public policy school in the United States, with 1,300 graduate students hailing from more than 100 countries. Our seven degree programs include a Master of International Affairs; Master of Public Administration (with specialty programs in economic policy, environmental policy, and development practice); and Ph.D. in sustainable development.

Your efforts as Secretary-General to promote sustainable development and enhance UN peace efforts are just two of your many achievements that inspire our students and faculty. Our graduates are passionate about issues such as human rights, economic and political development, international security, the environment, energy policy, national and municipal governance, urban planning, conflict resolution, and more. Our students and faculty have particularly requested speakers like you, who can give them a memorable send off into careers serving the public interest around the world.

It would be our privilege to introduce you to this next generation of global leaders. My office will follow up very soon to discuss the details of SIPA's 2012 graduation ceremony.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John. H. Coatsworth
Dean and Professor History and International and Public Affairs

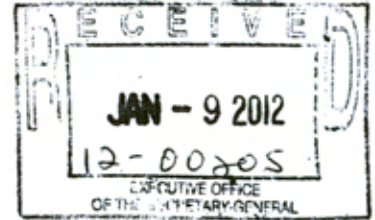
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OFFICE OF THE DEAN

420 West 118th Street MC: 3328 New York, NY 10027

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Dean and Professor History and International and Public Affairs

sc#1081002; com 111001

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