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mouvement scout

Zonta International

PAST PRESIDENT
Aïda MaitourPaolo, action pls
L74C

21 August 2007

ACTION NYC

COPY

DSG



Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

When you were in Geneva during the ILS of ECOSOC and the Global Compact meeting, I was privileged to hand to you personally a letter which asked you to establish a civil society advisory group. This letter which carried the signatures of major NGO leaders was in the spirit of the Civil Society Development Forum CONGO had organized and which preceded the ECOSOC ILS with a major impact on its deliberations.

I have not received a response so far. Since CONGO is preparing for its biannual Board meeting next week, I allow myself to resend once more this letter to you with the hope that it will receive your attention and most hopefully a positive response.

Reiterating my very best wishes for your overwhelming tasks in fulfilling the United Nations' aspirations, I express once more CONGO's full support to all your efforts.

Yours very sincerely,

Renate Bloem
President

Sangha:

#27-10342 was sent
to PG at ODSG for
action. You may
wish to rule DPR's
view on the 2nd
meeting re meeting
agenda, in consultation
w/PG. (Shades. L.)..

PRESIDENT
Rivka Bloom

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Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants
Fédération des associations d'anciens fonctionnaires internationaux

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mouvement scout

Zonta International

PAST PRESIDENT
Aïda Marouf

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, NY
U.S.A.

30 June 2007

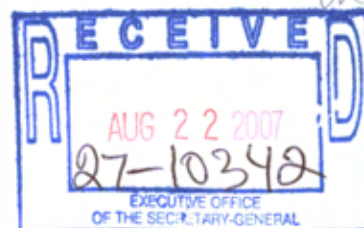
Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO), and also personally, I wish to express our gratitude to you for having emphasized again recently that the United Nations and its Member States, with the strong support of non-governmental organizations, must spare no effort in confronting – together – the challenges of the reform of the Organization and the need to accelerate progress to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

CONGO and its more than 500 members, some of them representing large networks themselves, are indeed committed to lend the Organization that strong support. We seek to enhance the consultative status of non-governmental organizations and to empower civil society so that we can jointly provide high-quality contributions and build effective partnerships with the United Nations to achieve social justice, peace and human security, and sustainable development.

During our currently held Civil Society Development Forum (from 28 to 30 June 2007 in Geneva), at which some 700 representatives of non-governmental organizations (including a large number of representatives operating in African LDCs) participate, we are debating on the two themes of ECOSOC's Substantive Session and the Annual Ministerial Review, i.e. themes which essentially focus on pro-poor sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty and hunger. We intend to subsequently brief representatives of the UN System and Member Governments participating at ECOSOC's Substantive Session on the conclusions and resolutions of our Forum and ask them to take these into account when discussing and formulating the conclusions and decisions of ECOSOC's High-Level Segment, and assessing progress towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals.

During our deliberations at this Forum numerous civil society representatives have requested CONGO to re-submit the idea I had briefly mentioned to you in my letter of 18 October 2006 (copy attached for ease of reference), namely to establish a civil



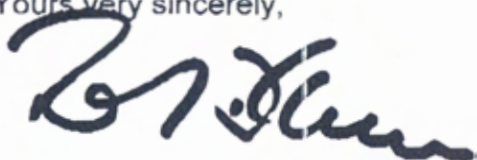
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society advisory group through which we could convey our experience and work with you and your team in building a well-structured and responsive civil society support mechanism. Many of our member organizations have accumulated considerable expertise in areas such as socio-economic development aiming at achieving progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals or in institution-building for the new Human Rights Council. The major non-governmental organizations particularly interested in lending that support through such an advisory group have co-signed this letter (please see below) to demonstrate their backing of our proposal.

We would be greatly honoured by your agreement to explore the modus operandi of such a civil society advisory group further with you and your team.

With warm greetings,

Yours very sincerely,



Renate Bloem
President

The following non-governmental organizations have co-signed this letter in support:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Name of Representative</u>	<u>Signature</u>
Society for Participatory Research	Rajesh Tandon	endorsed
In Asia (PRIA)	Roberto Bissio	(signed)
Social Watch	Kumi Naidoo	(signed)
CIVICUS:	Ramesh Singh	(signed)
Action Aid	John W. Foster	(signed)
The North-South Institute	Nigel Martin	(signed)
Montreal International Forum	Josep Xercavins	(signed)
UBUNTU Forum Secretariat	Cyril Ritchie	(signed)
Environment Liaison Centre Int.	Victoria Tauli-Corpuz	(signed)
Tebtebba Foundation		
Global Call to Action Against Poverty	Marivic Raquiza	(signed)
(Philippines)	Mama Koite Doumbia	(signed)
FEMNET	Martin Khor	(signed)
Third World Network	Kinda Mohamadieh	(signed)
Arab NGO Network	Demba Moussa Dembele	(signed)
African Social Forum Council	Anselmo Lee	endorsed
Forum Asia		

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FAX

To: Mr. Ban-Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General,
From: Renate Bloem, President of CONGO
Date: 21 August 2007
Subject: Civil Society Advisory Group
Pages: 4, including cover page