



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2013

Excellency,

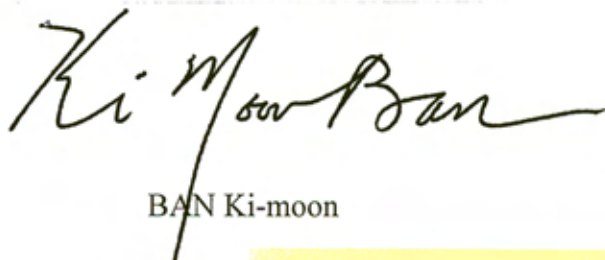
I am writing to follow up on our discussion during the United Nations General Assembly regarding the democratic consolidation process in Bangladesh.

I have been encouraged by your strong commitment to credible, inclusive and non-violent elections. I also take note of your recent efforts at forming an all-party interim cabinet. However, I remain concerned that time is running out to allow for truly inclusive elections by January 2014. The current deadlock between your Government and the opposition could threaten your hard won strides towards strong socio-economic progress. I recognize that both you and the opposition leader have submitted detailed proposals worthy of a genuine and serious discussion on how to allow for an inclusive election, the result of which would be credible in the eyes of the Bangladeshi people.

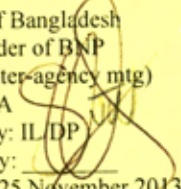
It is my intention to send my Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Oscar Fernández-Taranco, to Dhaka from 6 to 9 December 2013 to discuss ways in which an environment conducive for genuinely credible, inclusive and non-violent elections can be created. I would be grateful if you could meet with Mr. Fernández-Taranco at the beginning of his mission and before his departure.

I count on your commitment as a leader to work with all political parties towards democracy and stability in Bangladesh at this critical juncture. I am writing a similar letter to Her Excellency Mrs. Khaleda Zia, leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, to also encourage her and her party to engage in a meaningful and constructive political dialogue with your Government so that a mutually agreeable solution can be found on the conduct of the next national elections.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN Ki-moon

Her Excellency
Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister of the People's
Republic of Bangladesh
Dhaka

SG to PM of Bangladesh
and to Leader of BNP
(ASG-led inter-agency mtg)
Drafter: DPA
Proofread by: IL/DP
Approved by: 
Date: 25 November 2013



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2013

Excellency,

I was encouraged by your letter of 15 November 2013, in which you recognized an urgent need for constructive dialogue among all concerned to reach a consensus on the conduct of the next elections in Bangladesh. Your strong commitment to credible, inclusive and non-violent elections is very much appreciated. However, I remain concerned that the deadlock between you and the Government is continuing and could threaten your hard won strides towards strong socio-economic progress. I recognize that both you and the Prime Minister have submitted detailed proposals worthy of a genuine and serious discussion on how to allow for an inclusive election.

It is my intention to send my Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Oscar Fernández-Taranco, to Dhaka again from 6 to 9 December 2013 to discuss ways in which an environment conducive for genuinely credible, inclusive and non-violent elections can be created. I would be grateful if you could meet with Mr. Fernández-Taranco at the beginning of his mission and before his departure.

I count on your commitment as a leader to work with the Prime Minister towards democracy and stability in Bangladesh at this critical juncture. I am writing a similar letter to Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, to also encourage her and her party to engage in a meaningful and constructive dialogue so that a mutually agreeable solution can be found on the conduct of the next national elections.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



BAN Ki-moon

Her Excellency
Mrs. Khaleda Zia
Leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party
Dhaka