



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

2 August 2012

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your support to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). The outcomes of the Conference reflect the contributions, commitments and efforts by the United Nations system and other entities for the success of Rio+20. The far-reaching agreed outcome “The Future We Want” includes important decisions which will provide critical guidance to the work of the entire United Nations system.

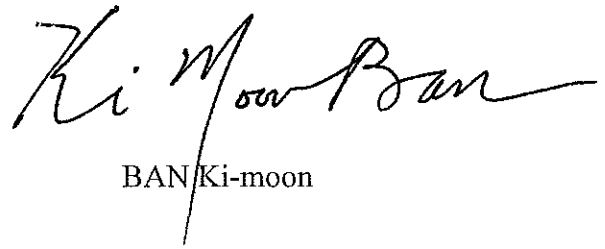
As we move forward to operationalize Rio+20, I count on your continued dedication and commitment. The attached implementation matrix attempts to capture the specific mandates and recommendations addressed to the United Nations system and other entities. It has been developed on the basis of the outcome document and has undergone close consultations through the inclusive Executive Committee on the Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA) Plus inter-agency mechanism covering all ECESA organizations/entities, Chief Executives Board and additional secretariats including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the International Organization for Migration, the Global Environment Facility, etc. It spells out the clear areas and associated lead responsibility for actions by entities and indicates the time frame for action drawn from the outcome document, which will help reporting back on the follow-up in support of implementation.

This framework is however only a first step in initiating a system-wide response to the outcome document. The United Nations system needs to step up its efforts to heed to the call of Heads of State and Government for better mainstreaming sustainable development in its work and to proactively integrate the economic, social and environmental dimensions of its work, notably at country level. We must systematically respond to the guidance and objectives set out in the various parts of the outcome document, including through the launch of new initiatives.

Executive Committee on Economic and Social
Affairs Plus Principals

I look forward to your continued engagement and carrying forward the spirit of working together which was so amply demonstrated in the run-up to Rio+20.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ki" being the most prominent. The last name "Ban" is written in a similar style, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

BAN/Ki-moon