



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

6 May 2015

Excellency,

In my capacity as the depositary of more than 560 multilateral treaties, I have the honour to write to you with respect to the organization of the 2015 Treaty Event. This year, the Treaty Event will be held from 28 September to 1 October 2015 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. This will be in conjunction with the General Debate of the seventieth session of the General Assembly, which opens on 28 September 2015.

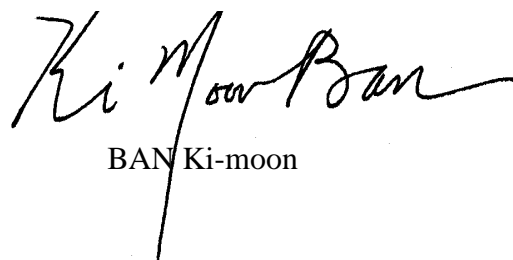
The Treaty Event has proven to be an effective means for promoting wider participation of states in the multilateral treaty framework, thereby fostering the rule of law at the international level. Since 2000, annual Treaty Events have attracted a total of 1,959 treaty actions. Last year alone, 52 states undertook 81 treaty actions during the course of the Treaty Event.

Today many treaties enjoy broad participation, but most fall short of the goal of universal participation. The Treaty Event provides a distinct opportunity for states to fulfil pledges made in national and international forums to sign on to and, particularly, to ratify or accede to multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General. I therefore ask you to join efforts to advance the universal application of the framework of internationally agreed-upon norms and standards. Universal participation and implementation of treaties remains an ambitious yet important goal, requiring the combined efforts of all states.

I wish to extend this invitation to you to make use of the 2015 Treaty Event by signing treaties for which I act as depositary and by depositing instruments of ratification or accession to those treaties. Treaties covering the areas of human rights, international trade, terrorism, law of the sea, disarmament, environment, privileges and immunities, and the safety of United Nations personnel will be highlighted at this year's Treaty Event. A list of the highlighted treaties is enclosed with this letter. A general list of the treaties deposited with the Secretary-General is available on the website of the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs (<https://treaties.un.org>).

Should you wish to participate in the 2015 Treaty Event, kindly inform my office by 4 September 2015 of your intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the treaties of which I am the depositary, so that the necessary arrangements may be made.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ban Ki-moon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "n" of "Ban".

BAN Ki-moon