



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

9 May 2007

Excellency,

Every year, since the Millennium Summit in the Year 2000, a treaty event has been held on the margins of the General Assembly General Debate where delegations are provided an opportunity to sign, ratify or accede to treaties deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, thereby demonstrating their continuing commitment to the central role of the rule of law in international relations. This year, the annual treaty event will be held on 25 to 27 September and 1 to 2 October 2007 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, to coincide with the General Debate of the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly. The treaty event is entitled “Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation - A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights”. I wish to extend this invitation to you to make use of this occasion by signing and ratifying or acceding to those treaties deposited with me to which your country is not party already.

The General Assembly has consistently reminded Member States of the importance of becoming parties to conventions concluded under its auspices. It has called upon Member States to consider becoming parties to conventions and implementing them. In particular, Member States, in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, specifically gave support to the annual treaty event and stressed the importance of States becoming parties to and implementing conventions deposited with the Secretary-General in a range of subject areas.

This year’s theme, for the first treaty event that will take place during my term as Secretary-General, will assist in focusing attention on the important goal of moving towards universal participation and implementation and will target those areas directly affecting human beings, their security, environment, development and human dignity.

Attached for your consideration is a list of treaties deposited with me that will be highlighted during the 2007 treaty event. The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will be publishing a document entitled *Focus 2007: Towards Universal Participation and Implementation - A Comprehensive Legal Framework for Peace, Development and Human Rights*, summarizing the objectives and key provisions of the highlighted treaties.

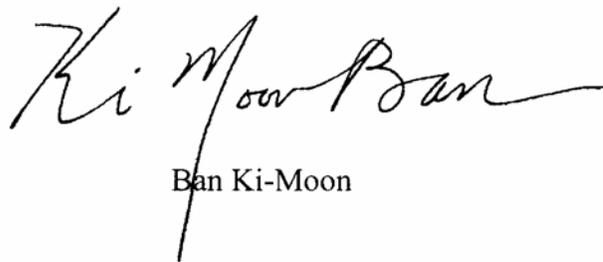
Continuing the tradition established during the Millennium Summit, the Treaty Event will be held in a specially designated location in the General Assembly Building with facilities to accommodate the media.

Of course, this opportunity could be used to sign and ratify or accede to any other treaty of which I am the depositary.

In addition to undertaking actions to participate in the international treaty framework, States also need to take adequate measures to implement the relevant treaty obligations within their domestic jurisdictions. I wish to underline the call made in my predecessor's Millennium Report, and repeated subsequently, to those States which might need assistance in this respect to advise me of their needs.

I would like to request that you inform me by 1 September 2007 of your intention to sign, ratify or accede to any of the treaties of which I am the depositary during the Focus 2007 treaty event so that the necessary arrangements can be made by the Secretariat.

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



Ban Ki-Moon