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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

4 January 2010

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to Mr. Chris Varney, Australia's 2009 Youth Delegate to the United Nations.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Nambiar'.

Vijay Nambiar  
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency  
Mr. Andrew Goledzinowski  
Deputy Permanent Representative of Australia  
to the United Nations  
New York



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

4 January 2010

Dear Mr. Varney and the Young People of Australia,

I write to thank you for your outstanding efforts to support the United Nations.

People around the world are connected as a human family as never before, opening up vast new possibilities. But we also face multiple threats, from poverty, hunger and climate change to the spread of deadly weapons and disease and the biggest economic crisis since the founding of the United Nations. None of these problems can be solved by any single nation acting alone. The youth of the world have a crucial role to play in addressing them all.

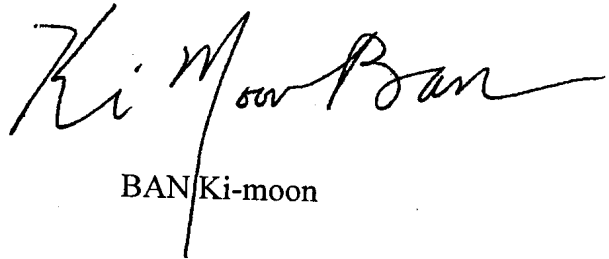
I always draw strength from my meetings with young people, and from the passion and insights they bring to our work for peace and progress. Youth delegates to the 2009 session of the General Assembly, including the Australian youth representative, forcefully articulated the perspectives of young people. At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, young leaders showed themselves strongly committed to solving climate-related challenges.

With this letter, I hope to encourage young people throughout Australia to take up the mantle of global citizenship. By getting involved in your communities, and by speaking out about your concerns and aspirations, you are showing the world that young people are not only leaders of tomorrow, but also important contributors of today.

Mr. Chris Varney  
Australia's 2009 Youth Delegate  
to the United Nations  
Canberra

Extraordinary times such as these open extraordinary opportunities for change. Thank you for supporting the aims, principles and work of the United Nations. I look forward to what you will do to help us meet the trials of our age and shape the world for good.

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.

BAN Ki-moon