



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

20 May 2014

Dear Ms. O'Connor,

I wish to thank you for your joint letter dated 9 May 2014 in which you conveyed the concerns of the Mining Working Group at the United Nations about the treatment of the issue of human rights within the ongoing intergovernmental deliberations on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

As expressed in the report of the Secretary-General entitled *A Life of Dignity for All*, we share your view that upholding human rights and freeing people from fear and want are inseparable; it is imperative that we do more to act on this basic truth. Irreversibly eradicating poverty is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. This is a matter of basic justice and human rights.

As the process for agreeing on a transformative and universal post-2015 development agenda unfolds in the coming months, I encourage you to continue to constructively engage with the co-chairs and members of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals as well as the other relevant United Nations processes.

I should be grateful if you would share this letter with your co-signatories.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ban Ki-moon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ban" being the most prominent.

BAN Ki-moon

Ms. Áine O'Connor
Sisters of Mercy
Mercy International Association
Dublin