



**Young UN**  
Agents for Change

22 November 2016

Dear Mr Guterres,

*Young UN: Agents for Change*, a growing network of young professionals working at the UN, congratulates you on your election as the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations.

We are inspired by your Vision Statement for your term as Secretary-General and are eager to maximise our strengths to help you implement that vision.

Started early this year, *Young UN* has brought together over 250 colleagues from more than 30 UN Departments, Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes who recognise the need for genuine change at the UN. We have a common aim: to identify and promote innovative ideas that will enable the UN to fully embody the principles it stands for. In doing so, we hope to improve our shared institution and enhance its credibility in promoting the Sustainable Development Goals.

Drawing on the creativity, fresh perspectives and long-term commitment of young professionals from across the system, we hope to assist you in cultivating an attitude of reform and a culture of collaboration among UN employees. We joined the UN because of the core values that it represents and its ambitious mission. We are deeply committed to these and to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. However, we are concerned that the UN faces several major obstacles to living by the principles it seeks to promote. Meeting through regular workshops and focus groups since July, we have identified the following three key challenges:

- **The UN has not always led by example with respect to transparency and accountability, despite SDG 16 demanding this of institutions at ‘all levels’.**
- **Collaboration and information-sharing across the UN system has not been incentivised enough to make “One UN” a reality.**
- **A strategic and cross-system approach to maximising the UN’s vast but underutilized talent pool is missing.**

However, we are optimistic that change is possible and we have ideas, from the broad policy level to day-to-day behavioural changes, to address these challenges: from introducing a cross-UN talent management programme to starting food gardens at UN sites all over the world.

We see our initiative as contributing to the realisation of such changes in three ways:

- **Starting a conversation:** By providing a forum for open and frank discussion regarding the challenges the UN faces and by encouraging such conversations more widely in the UN, we will support the cultural changes necessary to deliver reform;

- **Leading by example:** We will serve as change ambassadors in our own teams, piloting practical changes and sharing our experiences so that successes can be applied in new contexts;
- **Advocating change:** Drawing from our hands-on experience from across the UN system and beyond, we will identify and promote solutions to address the challenges identified above.

**We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you during the transition phase** to discuss how we can help shape the reforms needed to implement the 2030 Agenda and ensure that the UN is able to respond effectively to twenty-first century challenges.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

1. Ruth Blackshaw, UNAIDS New York Office, [blackshaw@unaids.org](mailto:blackshaw@unaids.org)
2. Quintin Chou-Lambert, OIOS, New York Office, [chou@un.org](mailto:chou@un.org)
3. Rebekah Chew, DESA, New York, [chewr@un.org](mailto:chewr@un.org)
4. Heidrun Fritze, UN Volunteers New York Office, [heidrun.fritze@undp.org](mailto:heidrun.fritze@undp.org)
5. Pina Valeria Roos, DM/OHRM, New York, [roosp@un.org](mailto:roosp@un.org)
6. Jonathan Agar, OLA, New York, [agar@un.org](mailto:agar@un.org)
7. Miriam Abu Hamdan, UNICEF, New York, [mabuhamdan@unicef.org](mailto:mabuhamdan@unicef.org)
8. Pap Talla, DESA, New York, [tallap@un.org](mailto:tallap@un.org)
9. Eduardo Belinchón de la Banda, DM/OCSS, New York, [belinchon@un.org](mailto:belinchon@un.org)
10. Benjamin Salignat, DM/OHRM, New York, [salignat@un.org](mailto:salignat@un.org)
11. Wannes Lint, DGACM, New York, [lint@un.org](mailto:lint@un.org)
12. Alice Gréjon, DFS, New York, [grejon@un.org](mailto:grejon@un.org)
13. Marie Deblonde-Vallet, OCHA, New York, [deblonde@un.org](mailto:deblonde@un.org)
14. Kirit Patel, DESA, New York, [patelk@un.org](mailto:patelk@un.org)
15. Gabo Arora, SDG Action Campaign, New York, [gabo.arora@undp.org](mailto:gabo.arora@undp.org)
16. Miguel Hernández, OCHA, New York, [hernandezrivera@un.org](mailto:hernandezrivera@un.org)
17. Katalin Downing, DM, New York, [downingk@un.org](mailto:downingk@un.org)
18. Georg Peitchev, UNDP, New York, [georg.peitchev@undp.org](mailto:georg.peitchev@undp.org)
19. Boukje Kistemaker, DPKO, New York, [kistemaker@un.org](mailto:kistemaker@un.org)
20. Bastian Richter, UNDP, New York, [bastian.richter@undp.org](mailto:bastian.richter@undp.org)
21. Ozge Aydogan, UNICEF, New York, [oydogan@unicef.org](mailto:oydogan@unicef.org)
22. Cecilia Pellosniemi, DPKO, New York, [pellosniemi@un.org](mailto:pellosniemi@un.org)
23. Asad Pason, OIOS, New York, [pasoon@un.org](mailto:pasoon@un.org)
24. Ankelit Berhe, EOSG, New York, [berhe3@un.org](mailto:berhe3@un.org)
25. Syed Ali Ahmed, DPA, New York, [ahmed219@un.org](mailto:ahmed219@un.org)
26. Melissa Martin, UNDESA/DSPD, New York, [martin25@un.org](mailto:martin25@un.org)
27. Andraž Melanšek, DPKO, New York, [melansek@un.org](mailto:melansek@un.org)
28. Suhail A. Khan, DPKO, New York, [khan30@un.org](mailto:khan30@un.org)
29. Taija Sironen, OICT, New York, [sironen@un.org](mailto:sironen@un.org)
30. Heli Pahlman, DFS, New York, [pahlman@un.org](mailto:pahlman@un.org)
31. Marieke Hounjet, OSAA, New York, [hounjet@un.org](mailto:hounjet@un.org)
32. Ken Okamoto-Kaminski, UNDP, New York, [ken.okamoto@undp.org](mailto:ken.okamoto@undp.org)
33. Alizée Treider, OCHA, New York, [treider@un.org](mailto:treider@un.org)
34. Alexander Freese, UN DOCO, New York, [alexander.freese@undg.org](mailto:alexander.freese@undg.org)
35. Michaela Markova, DPA, New York, [markovam@un.org](mailto:markovam@un.org)
36. Bart Smit Duijzentkunst, OLA, New York, [smitduijzentkunst@un.org](mailto:smitduijzentkunst@un.org)
37. Siaw Yong, ESCAP, Bangkok, [yong6@un.org](mailto:yong6@un.org)
38. Ilija Gudnitz Weber, UNFPA, Nairobi, [iweber@unfpa.org](mailto:iweber@unfpa.org)

39. Carlos Gómez del Campo, UNODC, Vienna, [carlos.gomezdelcampo@unodc.org](mailto:carlos.gomezdelcampo@unodc.org)
40. Sven Pfeiffer, UNODC, Vienna, [sven.pfeiffer@unodc.org](mailto:sven.pfeiffer@unodc.org)
41. Martin Dessart, ESCAP, Bangkok, [dessart@un.org](mailto:dessart@un.org)
42. Ottavia Pesce, ESCWA, Beirut, [pesce@un.org](mailto:pesce@un.org)
43. Diana Rodriguez-Wong, UNESCAP, Bangkok, [rodriguez47@un.org](mailto:rodriguez47@un.org)
44. Fruzsina Straus, UNESCWA, Beirut, [straus@un.org](mailto:straus@un.org)
45. Hoi Wai Cheng, DESA, New York, [cheng3@un.org](mailto:cheng3@un.org)
46. Jonas Deusch, ORC Honduras, [jonas.deusch@one.un.org](mailto:jonas.deusch@one.un.org)
47. Jonathan Perry, DESA, New York, [perryj@un.org](mailto:perryj@un.org)
48. Katharina Goetze, UNIS Vienna, [katharina.goetze@unvienna.org](mailto:katharina.goetze@unvienna.org)
49. Muriel Weyermann, UNFPA, New York, [weyermann@unfpa.org](mailto:weyermann@unfpa.org)
50. Nanayaa Kumi, DESA, New York, [kumi1@un.org](mailto:kumi1@un.org)
51. Prateek Awasthi, UNFPA, New York, [awasthi@unfpa.org](mailto:awasthi@unfpa.org)
52. Rosalie Fransen, UNFPA, New York, [rfransen@unfpa.org](mailto:rfransen@unfpa.org)
53. Sarah Gilbertz, UN OCHA, New York, [gilbertz@un.org](mailto:gilbertz@un.org)
54. Selahattin Selsah Pasali, UNECA, Addis Ababa, [SPasali@uneca.org](mailto:SPasali@uneca.org)
55. Shari Nijman, DESA, New York, [nijman@un.org](mailto:nijman@un.org)
56. Stephanie Coutrix, UNESCWA, Beirut, [coutrix@un.org](mailto:coutrix@un.org)
57. Veera Haapaniemi, OCHA, New York, [haapaniemi@un.org](mailto:haapaniemi@un.org)
58. Yanna Parnin, OLA, New York, [parnin@un.org](mailto:parnin@un.org)
59. Zebulun Kreiter, UNECA, Zambia, [zkreiter@uneca.org](mailto:zkreiter@uneca.org)
60. Helene Remling, UN DOCO, New York [helene.remling@undg.org](mailto:helene.remling@undg.org)
61. Øystein Nedrebø, UNSMIL, Tunis, [nedreboe@un.org](mailto:nedreboe@un.org)
62. Erin Gell, UN Women, New York, [erin.gell@unwomen.org](mailto:erin.gell@unwomen.org)
63. Imogen Howells, UNESCAP, Bangkok, [howells@un.org](mailto:howells@un.org)
64. Arun Jacob, ESCAP, Bangkok, [jacoba@un.org](mailto:jacoba@un.org)
65. Hanife Cakici, UNECA, Addis Ababa, [cakici@un.org](mailto:cakici@un.org)
66. Jo Berg, UN-Habitat, Cairo, [jo.berg@unhabitat.org](mailto:jo.berg@unhabitat.org)
67. Timothy Wilson, UNMIK, Pristina, [wilson29@un.org](mailto:wilson29@un.org)
68. Fiona Littlejohn-Carrillo, ECLAC, Santiago, [fiona.littlejohn@cepal.org](mailto:fiona.littlejohn@cepal.org)
69. Wolfgang Aigner, UNODC, Vienna, [wolfgang.aigner@unodc.org](mailto:wolfgang.aigner@unodc.org)
70. Laura Rutishauser, UNDP, New York, [laura.rutishauser@undp.org](mailto:laura.rutishauser@undp.org)
71. Grace Barrett, DPI, New York [barrett@un.org](mailto:barrett@un.org)
72. Sandra Bitar, DPA, New York [bitar@un.org](mailto:bitar@un.org)
73. Mathilde Closset, ECLAC, Santiago, [mathilde.closset@cepal.org](mailto:mathilde.closset@cepal.org)
74. Evelyn Wonosaputra, UNOV, Vienna, [evelyn.wonosaputra@unodc.org](mailto:evelyn.wonosaputra@unodc.org)
75. Helena Afonso, DESA, New York, [afonso@un.org](mailto:afonso@un.org)
76. Avishan Bodjnoud, DPKO, New York, [bodjnoud@un.org](mailto:bodjnoud@un.org)
77. Martin Waehlich, DPA, New York, [waehlich@un.org](mailto:waehlich@un.org)
78. Amelia Craig, ECLAC, Santiago, [amelia.craig@cepal.org](mailto:amelia.craig@cepal.org)
79. Noah Miller, ECLAC, Santiago, [noah.miller@cepal.org](mailto:noah.miller@cepal.org)
80. Sinduja Srinivasan, ECLAC, Santiago, [sinduja.srinivasan@cepal.org](mailto:sinduja.srinivasan@cepal.org)
81. Vera Kiss, ECLAC, Santiago, [vera.kiss@cepal.org](mailto:vera.kiss@cepal.org)
82. Laetitia Montero, ECLAC, Santiago, [laetitia.montero@cepal.org](mailto:laetitia.montero@cepal.org)
83. David Barrio, ECLAC, Santiago, [david.barrio@cepal.org](mailto:david.barrio@cepal.org)
84. Thomas Deleuil, OLA, New York, [deleuil@un.org](mailto:deleuil@un.org)
85. Heidi Ullmann, ECLAC, Santiago, [heidi.ullmann@cepal.org](mailto:heidi.ullmann@cepal.org)
86. Serge Melis, DPI, New York, [melis@un.org](mailto:melis@un.org)
87. Frederik Matthys, UN DOCO, New York, [frederik.matthys@undg.org](mailto:frederik.matthys@undg.org)
88. Seockhwan Hwang, DESA, New York [hwangs@un.org](mailto:hwangs@un.org)
89. Thomas Emil Jensen, UNRCO, Harare [thomas.e.jensen@one.un.org](mailto:thomas.e.jensen@one.un.org)
90. Constanze von Soehnen, UNODC, Vienna [constanze.vonsoehnen@unodc.org](mailto:constanze.vonsoehnen@unodc.org)
91. Dino Corell, ILO, New York [corell@ilo.org](mailto:corell@ilo.org)
92. Robert Williams, ECLAC, Port of Spain, [robert.williams@eclac.org](mailto:robert.williams@eclac.org)
93. Birgit Altmann, ECLAC, Santiago, [birgit.altmann@cepal.org](mailto:birgit.altmann@cepal.org)

94. Etiam Fiagan, DFS, New York, [fiagan@un.org](mailto:fiagan@un.org)
95. Olaf J. de Groot, ECLAC, Mexico City, [olaf.degroot@cepal.org](mailto:olaf.degroot@cepal.org)
96. Shreya Kumra, ECLAC, Santiago, [shreya.kumra@cepal.org](mailto:shreya.kumra@cepal.org)
97. Sophie Evekink, WHO, New York, [sevekink@whoun.org](mailto:sevekink@whoun.org)
98. Suvi Huikuri, WHO, New York, [shuikuri@whoun.org](mailto:shuikuri@whoun.org)
99. Salimatou Balde, UNFPA, New York, [sbalde@unfpa.org](mailto:sbalde@unfpa.org)
100. Felix Herzog, ESCWA, Beirut, [herzogf@un.org](mailto:herzogf@un.org)
101. Giulia Scaroni, ILO, Geneva, [scaroni@iloquest.org](mailto:scaroni@iloquest.org)
102. Sheena Yoon, ILO, Geneva, [yoons@iloquest.org](mailto:yoons@iloquest.org)
103. Noella Richard, UNDP New York, [noella.richard@undp.org](mailto:noella.richard@undp.org)
104. Yuko Kitada, UN ESCAP, Bangkok, [kitada@un.org](mailto:kitada@un.org)
105. Pau Petit, UNYANET, Geneva, [pau.petit@unyanet.org](mailto:pau.petit@unyanet.org)
106. Matto De Simone, ILO, Geneva, [desimone@ilo.org](mailto:desimone@ilo.org)
107. Gintare Eidimtaite, OCHA, Geneva, [eidimtaite@un.org](mailto:eidimtaite@un.org)
108. Lucy Perkins, UNAMA, Kabul, [perkinsl@un.org](mailto:perkinsl@un.org)
109. Felipe Morgado, UNCTAD, Geneva, [felipe.morgado@unctad.org](mailto:felipe.morgado@unctad.org)
110. Jonathan Valdes, DM-OICT, Bangkok, [valdesj@un.org](mailto:valdesj@un.org)
111. Li Zhou, ESCAP, Incheon, [zhou17@un.org](mailto:zhou17@un.org)
112. Leonid Dolgoplov, UNOCHA, Kabul, [dolgoplov@un.org](mailto:dolgoplov@un.org)
113. Yoseph Mekasha, UNECA, Addis Ababa, [mekasha1@un.org](mailto:mekasha1@un.org)
114. Yasmina Guerda, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, [yasmina.guerda@unhabitat.org](mailto:yasmina.guerda@unhabitat.org)
115. Gurdip Sangha, OHCHR, Geneva, [gsangha@ohchr.org](mailto:gsangha@ohchr.org)
116. Kiyohiko Hasegawa, OHCHR, Geneva, [khasegawa@ohchr.org](mailto:khasegawa@ohchr.org)
117. Amy Dowler, ODA, New York, [dowler@un.org](mailto:dowler@un.org)
118. Anna García, ECLAC, Santiago, [anna.garcia@cepal.org](mailto:anna.garcia@cepal.org)
119. Sarah Schaffer, ODA, New York, [schaffer@un.org](mailto:schaffer@un.org)
120. Simon Neumueller, UNECA, [nsimon@uneca.org](mailto:nsimon@uneca.org)
121. Christophe Manshoven, UNCTAD, [christophe.manshoven@unctad.org](mailto:christophe.manshoven@unctad.org)
122. Anjali Balasingham, OHCHR, [abalasingham@ohchr.org](mailto:abalasingham@ohchr.org)
123. Jürgen Menze, ILO, Geneva, [menze@ilo.org](mailto:menze@ilo.org)