

His Excellency
Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
United Nations
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
USA

Rio+20: Report on Intergenerational Solidarity and Future Generations

Dear Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon,

We would like to congratulate you on your commitment and visionary leadership leading up to and during the Rio+20 Summit. Speaking on behalf of many representatives of the nine Major Groups, we would like to thank you for taking the time to formally meet with the Major Groups at the Summit. We hope your direct engagement with civil society sets the precedent for future occasions.

We were all engaged closely in Rio+20, and in particular to help promote the establishment of a High Commissioner or Ombudsperson for Future Generations to ensure intergenerational equity is an integral part of our policy making processes. We witnessed strong support for the proposal of a High Level Representative for Sustainable Development and Future Generations from many Governments, UN agencies and across all of civil society. Accordingly, we would welcome prioritisation for the report you have been invited to present in paragraph 86 of the Rio+20 outcome document entitled "The Future We Want". Sufficient resourcing and attention given to the process by which the report is written can help to increase awareness. Ultimately the report should offer a strong set of recommendations to promote this important agenda.

We would be honoured to work with you in preparing the report on Intergenerational Solidarity and Future Generations. We see great potential for this report to bring further understanding of these concepts and to propose practical mechanisms and tools by which a longer term perspective is applied. As well, the report should resonate with many of the different Rio outcomes, including new commitments on measurements to redefine growth and well being, the Sustainable Development Goals and the form and functions of the high-level forum. Working to an efficient schedule can deliver a strong report to complement the first convening of the forum at the beginning of the GA's 68th session.

In the first instance we formally request a meeting with you to discuss the first steps in this important area of work.

Yours,

ANPED – The Northern Alliance for Sustainability; Children's Commissioner for Wales; CIEL – The Center for International Environmental Law; CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation; nrg4SD, Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development; Oikos – Cooperação e Desenvolvimento; Peace Child International; Spire - the Development Fund's Youth; Stakeholder Forum Sustainable Future; terre des hommes International Federation; The Environmental Pillar Foundation for Democracy and Sustainable Development; The Intergenerational Foundation; Vitae Civilis - Institute for Development, Environment and Peace; World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; World Future Council.