



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

5 April 2007

Dear Madam President,

I would like to take this opportunity to convey to you and to Member States my views on the Report of the High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence (A/61/583) outlined in the annexed Report of the Secretary-General. My report will be officially released as an official General Assembly document on Monday, 9 April 2007. My views and suggestions are based on my own assessment of the Panel's Report, as well as on consultations with Member States and other stake holders.

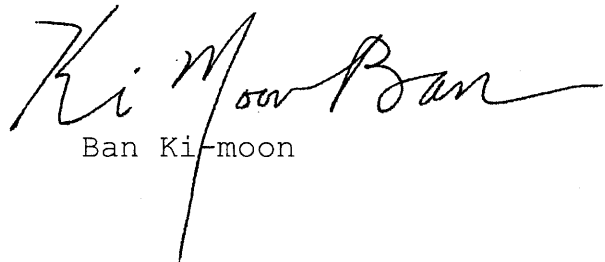
As I state in my Report, I believe that the conclusions of the Panel present us with an important opportunity to address issues of coherence in a comprehensive and consistent manner. They can serve our shared objective of ensuring that the United Nations responds to the global challenges of the twenty-first century, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. My Report underscores the United Nations system's recognition of the need to urgently take steps to enhance overall coherence and effectiveness. We are equally aware of the need to ensure that efforts to act on the Panel's recommendations are guided by and respectful of the inter-governmental consideration of the Panel's Report. At the same time, I hope that Member States will be able to reach soon a decision on how to move the process forward.

Her Excellency
Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa
President of the General Assembly
New York

On the part of the United Nations system, progress has been made towards implementation of those recommendations building on existing inter-governmental mandates. For the recommendations that require further discussion, I intend to work and consult closely with you, Member States, and the relevant intergovernmental bodies which will play a critical role in moving the report forward. In this regard, I have asked the Deputy Secretary-General to oversee and support the implementation of the system-wide coherence reform agenda. The Deputy Secretary-General will work closely with relevant senior United Nations officials who will be at the disposal of Member States to facilitate discussion in their respective areas of responsibility.

I look forward to working with you and the Member States in what I trust will be a fruitful collaboration.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Ban Ki-moon