

16 December 2011

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your continued personal commitment to polio eradication and for leading the emergency efforts of Afghanistan to strengthen the implementation of vaccination campaigns to reach every child.

As the Independent Monitoring Board of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative noted in October 2011, the management and innovation of the polio eradication programme in Afghanistan, under the able leadership of your Acting Minister of Public Health, deserves much praise. However, the global community is concerned that the numbers of polio cases in the country have increased steeply this year, and too many children continue to be missed during vaccination campaigns, especially in the conflict-affected districts.

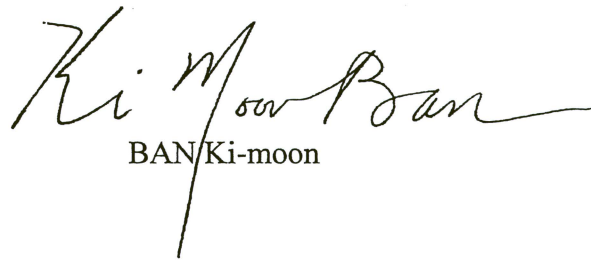
Your leadership is essential to appeal to all parties in the conflict to allow safe access to children during vaccination campaigns, to encourage continued innovative strategies at the district level, and to ensure that high quality eradication activities are sustained in the vast majority of the country that remains polio-free.

The eradication of polio will be a testament to the world's ability to work together to address global development challenges, including much-needed improvements in the health of women and children. The Executive Board of the World Health Organization will therefore in January 2012 discuss a draft polio resolution that calls for the completion of polio eradication as a 'programmatic emergency for global public health'.

His Excellency
Mr. Hâmid Karzai
President of the Islamic Republic
of Afghanistan
Kabul

I am confident that under your leadership the remaining challenges at the local level can be addressed through active support from all sectors of the society. The United Nations remains committed to supporting the efforts of Afghanistan to achieve polio eradication.

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



BAN/Ki-moon

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

16 December 2011

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your personal and public commitment to stop polio in Nigeria by the end of 2012, and for launching a “Special Task Force”, to help implement and monitor your Government’s emergency plan for polio eradication. This emergency plan will be successful if it can be fully and urgently implemented at the Local Government Area (LGA) level to vaccinate every child.

As the Independent Monitoring Board of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative noted in their recent report in October this year, Nigeria made impressive progress in 2010, but the polio situation worsened significantly in 2011 due to lack of effective actions at the LGA level in key geographical areas. The continued international spread of polio from Nigeria in 2011 has further increased the concern of the global community.

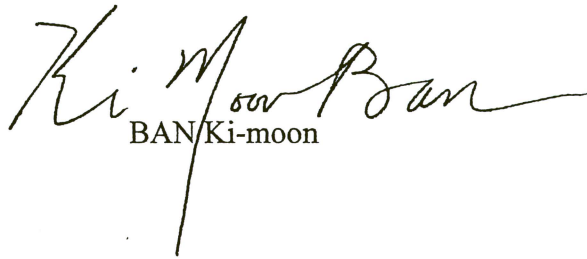
I am confident that Nigeria can succeed in its polio eradication efforts with the full engagement of State Governors and LGA authorities to hold officials accountable for effective implementation and supervision of the vaccination campaigns, and enhanced support from traditional and religious leaders to mobilize community support.

The eradication of polio will be a testament to the world’s ability to work together to address global development challenges, including much-needed improvements in the health of women and children. The Executive Board of the World Health Organization will therefore in January 2012 discuss a draft polio resolution that calls for the completion of polio eradication as a ‘programmatic emergency for global public health’.

His Excellency
Mr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCON
President of the Federal Republic
of Nigeria
Abuja

Under your active leadership, and with your Government's strong political and financial commitment, the remaining challenges at the LGA level in a few northern states can be addressed. The United Nations remains committed to supporting the efforts of Nigeria to achieve polio eradication.

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


BAN/Ki-moon

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

16 December 2011

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your continued personal commitment to polio eradication and for leading the work of Pakistan to revamp the National Emergency Action Plan for polio eradication. The enhanced plan that builds on the lessons of 2011 will be successful if it can be fully and urgently implemented at the district and Union Council level, to reach and vaccinate every child.

As the Independent Monitoring Board of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative noted in their recent report in October 2011, the polio situation in Pakistan has worsened significantly over the past two years due to insufficient accountability and action at the frontline. The recent international spread of polio from Pakistan to China has further increased the concern of the global community.

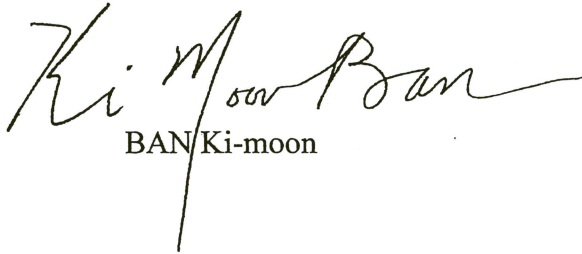
I am confident that Pakistan will make great strides in its emergency polio eradication efforts with the close and regular review of the programme by the Prime Minister, the full engagement of provincial authorities to hold officials at the district and Union Council level accountable for the selection of appropriate vaccinators, effective implementation and supervision of the vaccination campaigns, and enhanced support from religious leaders and other Ministries to secure access to children in areas of insecurity.

The eradication of polio will be a testament to the world's ability to work together to address global development challenges, including much-needed improvements in the health of women and children. The Executive Board of the World Health Organization will therefore in January 2012 discuss a draft polio resolution that calls for the completion of polio eradication as a 'programmatic emergency for global public health'.

His Excellency
Mr. Asif Ali Zardari
President of the Islamic Republic
of Pakistan
Islamabad

Under your active leadership, the remaining challenges at the Union Council level can be urgently addressed and children protected from death or lifelong disability. The United Nations remains committed to supporting the efforts of Pakistan to achieve polio eradication.


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


BAN Ki-moon

Le 16 décembre 2011

Monsieur le Président,

Je vous remercie d'avoir fait de l'éradication de la poliomyélite en République du Tchad un engagement personnel et pris la direction du plan d'action d'urgence établi par votre gouvernement en la matière. Le succès de ce plan dépend de sa mise en œuvre rapide et intégrale dans les districts afin que tout enfant soit vacciné.



Comme le Comité de suivi indépendant de l'Initiative mondiale pour l'éradication de la poliomyélite l'a noté dans son rapport d'octobre 2011, malgré le grand nombre de cas de poliomyélite recensés cette année, le programme ne cesse de gagner du terrain en République du Tchad. Toutefois, la communauté mondiale demeure préoccupée par le fait que la transmission de la maladie dans la république du Tchad se propage de plus en plus.

J'ai la conviction que votre pays parviendra à éradiquer la poliomyélite si tous les gouverneurs de province et toutes les autorités de district se mobilisent pour veiller à ce que leurs agents pourvoient au bon déroulement de toutes les campagnes de vaccination et remplissent leur rôle de supervision. Il est aussi essentiel que les dignitaires religieux et les chefs traditionnels jouent un plus grand rôle, car ils sont en position de rassembler et soutenir la communauté.

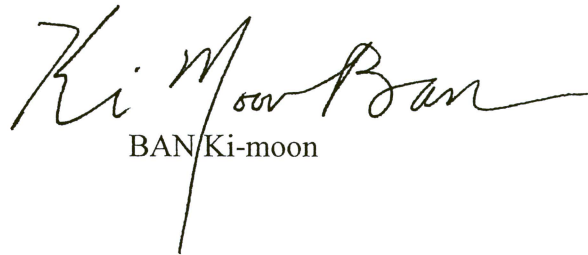
Son Excellence
Général de Corps d'Armée Idriss Deby Itno
Président de la République du Tchad
N'Djamena



L'éradication de la poliomyélite montrera que la communauté internationale, lorsqu'elle agit solidairement, est capable de relever les défis du développement mondial, en particulier d'apporter les améliorations qui s'imposent en matière de santé des femmes et des enfants. A cet égard, le Conseil exécutif de l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé examinera en janvier 2012 un projet de résolution demandant que l'éradication de la poliomyélite soit élevée au rang d'urgence programmatique pour la santé publique mondiale.

Grâce à votre détermination, et avec l'appui politique sans faille de votre gouvernement, les difficultés qui subsistent dans les districts pourront être résolues. Dans sa lutte pour éradiquer la poliomyélite, la République du Tchad peut compter sur l'appui indéfectible de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. De plus, nous avons également mobilisé 100 membres de notre personnel technique afin de soutenir les efforts de votre gouvernement.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma très haute considération.


BAN/Ki-moon

Secretary-General's annual letters to HoS/G of countries affected by Polio

His Excellency
Mr. Hâmid Karzai
President of the Islamic Republic
of Afghanistan
Kabul

His Excellency
Mr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCON
President of the Federal Republic
of Nigeria
Abuja

His Excellency
Mr. Asif Ali Zardari
President of the Islamic Republic
of Pakistan
Islamabad

FRENCH LETTERS

Son Excellence
Général de Corps d'Armée Idriss Deby Itno
Président de la République du Tchad
N'Djamena

Son Excellence
Monsieur Joseph Kabila Kabange
Président de la République
démocratique du Congo
Kinshasa

see 21 December

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16 December 2011

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