

25 April 2012

Dear Ms. Dahlerup,

This is with regard to my Global Civil Society Advisory Group, which I am establishing as a forum for consultation with eminent civil society leaders.

In my Vision and Action Plan of 2011, I had referred to the special relationship I envisage between UN Women and civil society organizations. In support of this relationship, I had committed to setting up national, regional and global Civil Society Advisory Groups. My intent to work substantively and closely with the civil society constituency was reflected and operationalized in the UN Women Strategic Plan, approved by the Executive Board in its Annual Session in 2011. In implementation of this aspect of the Strategic Plan, UN Women is setting up Civil Society Advisory groups at country and regional levels.

At the global level, I am now constituting a Global Civil Society Advisory Group to advise me as Executive Director of UN Women. This Group will be a channel for our ongoing collaboration and a forum through which I can draw upon the rich perspectives, experiences, expertise and knowledge of civil society from all levels – community, national, regional and global.

It is my great privilege to invite you to be a member of my Global Civil Society Advisory Group. Your knowledge, expertise and experience will be invaluable as I steer UN Women to support our common goals of gender equality and women's empowerment.

A Terms of Reference for my Global Civil Society Advisory Group is attached for your information. If you do me the honour of joining this group, I will be informing you of our first meeting, which I will convene in the next months.

Civil Society is one of UN Women's most important constituencies. My expectation in setting up this Group is to be able to draw upon the dynamic source of ideas, creativity, passion and commitment to our common weal, that civil society leaders like you offer. I also count on your support for UN Women, which can assist the organization in achieving its Strategic Goals. Your participation and contribution to my Global Civil Society Advisory Group will enrich its functioning and strengthen the achievement of its goals.

I look forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Bachelet  
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director

Ms. Drude Dahlerup