

JOINT PRESS STATEMENT  
MEXICO – U.N.

MEXICO AND THE UNITED NATIONS STRENGTHEN THEIR HISTORIC TIES  
WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO MEXICO

April 15, 2014

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, carried out an official visit to Mexico on April 14 and 15, 2014. This is the fifth time the Secretary-General visits Mexico, acknowledging the close cooperation and the historic ties between Mexico and the United Nations.

President Enrique Peña Nieto and Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon held a bilateral working meeting, where they exchanged views on Mexico's contributions to the United Nations, as well as on the preparations for the next most important United Nations meetings. UN Secretary-General welcomed Mexico's renewed activism in world affairs, as a responsible global actor. They acknowledged the fact that more than 20 offices of the UN specialized agencies, funds and programs have presence in Mexico City.

President Peña Nieto thanked the Secretary-General for participating in the opening ceremony of the First High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, held in Mexico City on 15 and 16 April, whose goal was to review the global progress aimed at making development co-operation more effective, agree on actions to boost progress, and anchor effective development co-operation in the post-2015 global development agenda. As a recipient and a donor of co-operation, Mexico values the significance of improving its effectiveness to promote better development policies worldwide. The Secretary-General praised Mexico's growing international aid to countries prone to natural disasters, such as Haiti after the 2010 earthquake, and more recently to countries affected by the crisis in Syria.

The President of Mexico highlighted Secretary-General Ban's leadership towards the adoption of the new post-2015 development agenda, as well as his constant endeavors to effectively combat global climate change. Mexico has been a strong advocate of the adoption of a post-2015 development agenda based on the principles of sustainability, universality and inclusion, and is currently promoting the establishment of an overall economic and social inclusion perspective to effectively combat inequality and guide the work towards the adoption of new development goals. President Peña Nieto commended the Secretary-General's initiative to hold a Climate Summit in September 2014 and announced his participation in the Summit.

President Peña Nieto also stressed the importance of moving forward in the preparation of a successful 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, as well as in the early entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). Mexico has offered to host the first Conference of States Parties of the ATT in 2015, thus reinforcing its commitment towards a more responsible conventional arms trade.

The Secretary-General highlighted Mexico's international leadership and statesmanship on issues such as human rights, climate change and disarmament. The Secretary-General and President Peña Nieto exchanged views on the situation in key regions of the world affected by conflict and political instability, and called for the respect of international law and the principles of the UN Charter. President Peña Nieto welcomed the commitment and personal involvement of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in solving these crises and underscored the central role the UN plays in the promotion of human rights, development and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

These meetings served as an opportunity to review the role of Mexico in global affairs, as well as to reaffirm the close cooperation between Mexico and the UN in pressing matters of peace and security, economic and social development and human rights.