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His Excellency
Lieutenant General Sir Jerry Mateparae, GNZM, QSO
Governor-General of New Zealand

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Government House

Your Excellency,

It is my great pleasure to extend to you and to the Government and people of New Zealand my warmest congratulations on the occasion of Waitangi Day.

This is an opportunity to celebrate the proud culture and history of your country. It is also a chance to reflect on the role New Zealand is playing in our interconnected world. I appreciate your engagement at the United Nations, which is helping to forge shared solutions to our common challenges.

Our global agenda includes five generational opportunities to create the future we want: promoting sustainable development, building a safer and more secure world, preventing crises, helping countries in transition, and doing more for the world's women and young people.

In order to rise to these challenges, I am conscious that we must strengthen our Organization. A more mobile, efficient and effective United Nations is essential to delivering for the world's people.

In this effort, I welcome the contribution, commitment and leadership of New Zealand in our quest to usher in a more just, peaceful and prosperous future for all people.

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

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

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