

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
H.E. JOHN W. ASHE**

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**MESSAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF HAPPINESS  
United Nations, New York, 20 March**

Nearly two years ago, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution to designate March 20 as "International Day of Happiness."

On this day, Member States have come together to recognize the importance of universal well-being.

The International Day of Happiness celebrates unity and calls on the international community to support the three pillars of sustainable development -- social, economic and environmental. As the United Nations family sets out to identify the goals for an inclusive, people-centered Post-2015 Development Agenda with the eradication of poverty as its overarching objective, I invite Member States, international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to raise public awareness of the aspirations of human beings around the world. Happiness is a fundamental human goal, and improving public policies in countries that can contribute thereto is essential to promoting equitable societies for all.