

15 May, 2014

Excellency,

On 6 June 2014, I will be hosting an international event in the form of a cultural evening and concert at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, centred on the theme of my presidency, "The Post-2015 Development Agenda: Setting the Stage!" The event will take place from 7:00 to 9:30pm in the General Assembly Hall (NLB).

The Post-2015 Development Agenda will, at a minimum, build on the successes and lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with the eradication of extreme poverty as its overarching objective. My event will therefore aim to give greater attention to this overarching objective.

As the international community prepares to usher in a new development framework that will become the Post-2015 Development Agenda - a framework anchored on the principles of sustainable development - a number of world leaders, engaged institutions and personalities, socially-conscious performing artists and celebrities have accepted to lend their support, voices, names and talent to the June 6 event.

This initiative, while engaging non-traditional actors as partners in global development efforts, will also open up new spaces for participation, through the use of social media platforms, and will showcase a variety of performing artists from various countries, including from some of the Least-developed Countries (LDCs) for whom the eradication of poverty is a particular and prevailing challenge.

Attendance by a diverse audience from a wide range of entities is anticipated, including high-level representatives from UN Member States, senior officials and staff of the UN system, NGOs and representatives of civil society organizations, celebrities, academia, and the private sector.

I have the honour to extend a personal invitation to you for the event. Please note that this invitation will be followed by a communication from the UN Office of Protocol, which will provide further information.

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

John W. Ashe

To All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations