



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13 September 2016

Excellency,

Please find attached letter dated 12 September 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica, conveying a letter from Ms. Christiana Figueres regarding the withdrawal of her candidature for the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', written in a cursive style.

Mogens Lykketoft

To all Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York



**Misión Permanente de Costa Rica ante las Naciones Unidas**

211 E. 43rd Street, Room 1002, New York, NY 10017. Tel: (212) 986-6373 Fax: (212) 986-6842

**MCRONU-744-2016**

*New York, 12 September 2016*

Excellency,

I have the honor to address Your Excellency, to convey hereby a letter from H.E. Ms. Christiana Figueres, regarding the withdrawal of her candidature for the position of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I wish to thank you for your effort and dedication in order to make this selection process more transparent and inclusive.

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



Juan Carlos Mendoza García  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica

**H.E. Mogens Lykketoft**  
**President of the General Assembly**  
**United Nations**  
**New York .-**

San José, Costa Rica  
September 12, 2016

President of the General Assembly  
President of the Security Council  
United Nations

Dear Sirs:

Let me first congratulate both the General Assembly and the Security Council for the manner in which the selection process of the new Secretary-General has been conducted this year.

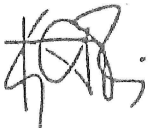
We are now less than four months away from the date on which the new Secretary-General must take office. The Security Council has the responsibility to guide the selection process in an orderly and timely manner to its final recommendation, and appointment by the General Assembly. Out of loyalty to the United Nations and in order to facilitate the advance of the selection process I hereby inform you that today I withdraw my candidacy to the position of Secretary-General. I do so with gratitude and with concern.

Deep gratitude to my government and my country, to all other Member States, to civil society and to private sector for the perseverance with which they continue to uphold the values and principles of the United Nations. My gratitude to the staff of the United Nations in headquarters and particularly those in the field. Over the years I have had the privilege of meeting with many Country Teams and recently with numerous military and civilian personnel in UN Peacekeeping Missions. No report can convey the daily challenges faced by them, nor the complexities of the constant dilemmas with which they struggle. Those on the front lines of peace (and most often lack thereof) need our full support.

My concern relates to the magnitude of our collective challenge. My candidacy has been based on the principle that we need to usher in a new era of strengthened multilateralism that brings countries together to collaborate in order to safeguard peace today and at the same time seed the peace of tomorrow. We have entered an age of increasing interdependence, in which the purposeful interweaving of our efforts will be critical to our success as we address challenges ranging from peace, conflict prevention, human rights, migration, disease, depletion of natural resources and climate change. Never before have we had so many issues compounding each other. At the same time, never before have we had such transformational opportunities to advance synergistically for the common good. However, as it has been shown in the climate change negotiations, this will not occur without leadership.

I trust that as the Security Council and the General Assembly move towards the conclusion of this important selection process Member States will be guided by a commitment to provide strong leadership to the United Nations and to the world.

Most cordially,



Christiana Figueres