

25 October 2015

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft,
President of the 70th Session of the General Assembly,
At the unveiling of Enlightened Universe art exhibit in Central Park
commemorating 70th Anniversary of the United Nations**

Mr Secretary General, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it is my great pleasure to be here with all of you in Central Park for the unveiling of this truly monumental art installation created by Cristobal Gabarron to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations.

With its “human chain” of global citizenship, solidarity, tolerance, and respect for nature, it is a fitting tribute to this organisation.

The very existence of the United Nations is a unique achievement in the history of mankind.

We are thankful to those that gave birth to the UN, and proud of all those that have contributed to its successes during the first 70 years.

We who are here tonight have a strong commitment to contribute further to the ideals of the UN Charter about peace, development and respect for human rights.

We must work to end the senseless conflicts and violence that disrupt development, displace millions and destroy hundreds of thousands of lives.

We must live up to our great new common commitment to protect people and planet.

This colourful and imaginative art work will serve to inspire and remind visitors to New York that billions of people around the world dream of enjoying peaceful and prosperous lives in a sustainable and just world.

And it reminds us of our common responsibility to give to the United Nations the strength and capacity to pursue that dream on behalf of all humanity.