



31 March 2006

Mary Robinson  
President,  
Realizing Rights:  
The Ethical Globalization Initiative

Dear Mary:

Thank you for your commentary on my interim report as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for business and human rights. Your views and support have meant a great deal to me ever since we first began to toil together in United Nations trenches to create the space in which to address and deal with these important challenges. Therefore, I am pleased that you found so many elements in the report to agree with.

Thank you also for participating in my regional consultations in Johannesburg earlier this week. I am certain you concur that we benefited enormously from the experiences shared by representatives of business, civil society and officialdom from several African countries, as we discussed options for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights in relation to corporate operations in weak governance zones.

As I stressed in Johannesburg, the first phase of my mandate is now behind us. In effect, I only have nine months left to address an enormous array of complex issues. Therefore, it is high time for me to move on. I very much appreciate your willingness to contribute to the successful completion of my assignment. In particular, I applaud the decision of the Business Leaders for International Human Rights companies to extend their project for another three years and will continue to follow their work with great interest.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Juggie'.

John G. Ruggie

Kirkpatrick Professor of International Affairs and Director, Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, Kennedy School of Government; Affiliated Faculty Member, Harvard Law School; UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Business and Human Rights.