

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**VIDEO MESSAGE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
 FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY TO MARK THE  
 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S ENTRY INTO THE UNITED  
 NATIONS**  
New York, 17 June 2021

Dear friends,

I am honored to greet this international seminar.

Since joining the United Nations in 1991, the Republic of Korea has been a dynamic and determined Member State.

You have played a leadership role on many issues of global importance, from peacebuilding to green growth.

You have been a consistent voice in favour of multilateralism.

And of course, a great son of Korea, His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, served with distinction as my predecessor.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that international solidarity is indispensable, and the Republic of Korea has generously shared the lessons you learnt during this crisis.

Thirty years after both the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea became members of the United Nations, I hope that this anniversary will be the occasion for the two Koreas to build bridges, reaffirm the values of peace and reconciliation and establish enduring cooperation. Dialogue remains the only pathway to sustainable peace and complete denuclearization.

Congratulations again on this milestone. The United Nations looks forward to ever-deeper partnership with the Republic of Korea to advance peace and prosperity for all on a healthy planet.

Thank you.