

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

NEW YORK

Budapest, 4th December 2013

Esteemed Secretary-General,

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you for your letter and for caring so much about the success of the Budapest World Water Summit.

It was a great honour to host you. It meant a lot for the academics and professionals of the centuries old and innovative Hungarian hydrology culture that you, Mr Secretary-General, have firmly stood by the cause of preserving our water reserves, as well as safe drinking water and sanitation. I myself am also of the opinion that the issue of water is not one, but the most important issue that firmly binds countries of the world, without regard to their geographical location, size, economic strength, national culture or even specific interests.

The Budapest Statement adopted at the World Summit in Hungary strengthens our hope that governments, politicians and professionals dealing with the future of water have come closer than ever to this realisation. Your personal commitment plays a great role in this.

Mr Secretary-General, I am aware of your personal concern for the sustainable development goals to be adopted by the UN in 2015 for the period until 2030. I also know how committed you are to not purely treating water as an environment protection issue. I also believe that we should not only look on water as a basic natural resource requiring protection, but also as an indispensable source of our life, health, future and peaceful development.

This is an issue, which – similarly to you – I also consider important. Therefore, in addition to our discussions on this matter, permit me to take this opportunity also to reassure you that as a Head of State I will continue to do my utmost to make sure that you can always count on Hungary as a committed ally in your responsible efforts to promote the issue of water internationally.

Yours sincerely
János Áder

