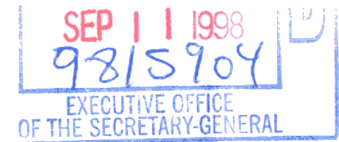


Translation



The Federal Republic of Germany  
The Federal Chancellor

Bonn, 17 August 1998

Dear Secretary-General,

Thank you for your letter of 26 June 1998 and for the documents "Youth Charter for a Twenty-First Century Free of Drugs" and "Vision from Banff".

I am pleased that young people are giving earnest thought to the drug problem. We should take this matter and the readiness to help shape the future expressed in these documents very seriously.

The objective of the German Government's addiction prevention policy is therefore to enable young people to play an even bigger role in decision-making processes and concrete prevention measures. We have developed a series of prevention programmes for the Federal Republic of Germany and are also making our experiences available to international bodies.

The German Government is convinced that resolute action against illegal drug trafficking at national and international level, as well as programmes which foster alternative development in countries where narcotics are cultivated and produced are indispensable elements of a successful strategy in the fight against drugs.

The pledge made by the international community at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Countering the World Drug Problem to make every effort to substantially reduce both the supply of and the demand for drugs by the year 2008 gives me cause to hope. I would like to assure you that the German Government will make its contribution towards achieving these objectives.

Yours sincerely,  
(sgd) Helmut Kohl

His Excellency  
Mr Kofi Annan  
Secretary-General of the  
United Nations  
New York, NY  
USA