



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
 PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
 ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

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Dear Ms. Koma,

Thank you for inviting me to contribute a message of support for the 'Torch of Peace' concert, being held in Tanzania on 25 August 2003 during the Southern African Development Community conference.

In his manifesto for the concert, the artist, Mr. Idaki Shin, introduces the motif of the cry of a new-born baby. That cry is a demand for nurture, for compassion, for protection.

The world, too, is crying out—for peace, for justice and for a sustainable future for all the world's children. Nowhere is this need more sharply felt than in Africa where people's hopes for a healthy peaceful life have too often been cruelly shattered.

At the start of the new millennium, the member countries of the United Nations committed themselves to a set of time-bound and measurable goals to reduce poverty and hunger, improve human health and ensure environmental sustainability. These goals, if fulfilled, will ensure that the children of Africa, and their brothers and sisters the world over, can look forward to a better future that respects our common humanity, and recognises our common responsibility as guardians of Earth, our only home.

I commend your dedication to highlighting these issues through your art, and for spreading the message that we are all connected in a worldwide web of life.

I wish you every success, now and in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Klaus Toepfer
 Executive Director

Ms. Keiko Koma
 Executive Producer of Torch of
 Peace Idaki Shin Tanzania Concert
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