

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

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**MESSAGE FOR OPENING OF GLOBAL ENGINEERING CONGRESS  
London, 22 October 2018**

I congratulate the Institution of Civil Engineers on its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As one of the world's oldest such organizations, the Institution has made significant contributions to the development of the very infrastructure of modern life.

I also thank the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, which encompasses institutions from 100 nations and 30 million engineers, for its leadership of the profession internationally – and which is marking its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Both milestones demonstrate the important contribution that engineering has made to our economies and our societies. The United Nations will continue to count on your engagement and support as we strive to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals – the world's blueprint for building a future of peace and prosperity for all on a healthy planet. Every one of the Goals requires solutions rooted in science, technology and engineering.

I am therefore pleased that the focus of this Global Engineering Congress is to advance the goals relating to water, energy, infrastructure and cities. Climate action is especially urgent; climate change is running faster than we are and I continue to stress the need to do what science demands before it is too late.

In this Year of Engineering in the United Kingdom, I thank you for your commitment to our shared objectives and offer all the participants in the Global Engineering Congress my best wishes for a successful event.