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**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

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**MESSAGE TO JAPAN'S SDG AWARDS CEREMONY**  
**December 2018**

I am pleased to greet the 2018 Japan SDG awards ceremony.

Nearly four years into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we are able to take good stock of progress and determine good practices for the hard work ahead. Toward that end, the United Nations has launched a call for submissions of good practices, success stories and lessons learned so that we can galvanize further momentum.

The Japanese awards embody a commitment to multi-stakeholder engagement. From combatting climate change to achieving a fair globalization to building peaceful, inclusive societies, implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires a whole-of-society approach encompassing governments, parliamentarians, civil society, the private sector and other partners.

In that spirit, I congratulate the contestants and winners of this year's SDG awards. You are agents of change, and your work will surely inspire and encourage others around the world.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful event.