

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**MS. SUSANA MALCORRA, CHEF DE CABINET**

--

**REMARKS AT**

**“2015 GLOBAL FORUM FOR RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION  
– 6TH PRME ASSEMBLY”  
New York, 24 June 2015**

Mr. Dan LeClair, Chair of the PRME Steering Committee and Chief Operating Officer of AACSB International,  
Mr. Angel Cabrera, Master of Ceremonies and President of George Mason University,  
Distinguished Deans and academic officials,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to address this esteemed group of scholars and academics from around the world. I bring you warm greetings from Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who greatly appreciates your commitment to embedding sustainability into curricula and research.

You gather at a critically important moment, as United Nations Member States strive to make 2015 a watershed year for sustainable development and climate change action.

Decisions to be taken in the months ahead – including on a set of Sustainable Development Goals -- offer a once-in-a-generation opportunity to place the world on a course of action to end poverty, protect the planet and transform all lives for the better.

Success in implementing this new and ambitious agenda will be driven not only by world leaders and governments, but also by local communities, the private sector, and many other partners and stakeholders. The goals matter to all of us, and we all share a responsibility to help build lives of dignity for all.

The Principles of Responsible Management Education are an essential piece of the puzzle. The Secretary-General had the privilege of launching PRME [*pronounced “prime”*] in 2007.

Today, it is very encouraging to see the progress you have made—individually, at your academic institutions, and as a community. Schools that are participating in PRME and in the UN Academic Impact initiative are helping to educate future generations of globally responsible leaders and professionals.

PRME has reached more 600 management education institutions in 80 countries, educating more than 2.5 million students.

Twelve regional chapters are providing platforms for dialogue and learning for signatories, as well as links to Global Compact Local Networks.

You have created important teaching and research resources on climate, anti-corruption, gender equality, and poverty.

And you have collaborated across the UN system, including with UNESCO's Global Action Program on Education for Sustainable Development.

Responsible management education and corporate sustainability go hand in hand. Both are critical to the advancement of the new Sustainable Development Goals. With that in mind, the Secretary-General and I ask for your help in making 2015 a historic year.

First, we need to hear your voices. We encourage the academic community to strengthen your dialogue with governments, business and other partners on defining the SDGs. Educate the leaders of tomorrow to understand that sustainability – and public goods – can no longer be regarded as an add-on, but rather are essential to long-term business success.

Second, we need companies to gear up for implementation of the SDGs, and to integrate the goals into business strategies, research and development, and new product development. Academia has a huge role to play in helping to define modern business management models, redefining “value” for business, and spurring innovation through research.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Over the next 15 years, the world will need all of you, individually and collectively, to do your part in meeting the needs of people today while transforming our prospects for tomorrow.

As educators, researchers, and thought leaders, your role is essential.

The United Nations looks forward to the contributions you will make in transforming our world by 2030.

Thank you.