

MRS. SYLVIA HOWARD FUHRMAN
Assistant Secretary-General
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for UNIS

18 June 2010

Dear Dr. Ayala,

It is a pleasure indeed to invite you and Pangea World to join the United Nations International School (UNIS) to hold an event presenting your visionary professional mission—and saluting the Leaders who have enriched this mission’s promise for the environment and humanity—at UNIS on Sunday, 19 September, 2010.

I commend your effort to plant a new paradigm of “knowledge wealth”: one that extols the scientific value of this planet’s prime reservoirs of biodiversity and other heritage riches as a potent resource for fomenting the sustainability and prestige of national, regional, and global economies. Your translation of this paradigm into implementation strategies that seek to elevate many developing countries, including some of the poorest nations, to the forefront of competitiveness and conservation stewardship in this new era of knowledge economies, is intriguing. The more so given the scope and credentials of the course you chart, along a “knowledge bridge” that carries your special focus on the Pacific across the Indian Ocean to the shore of Africa and launches it in California, at the West Coast Center of the United States National Academies of Sciences and Engineering. I note and value the endorsements and recognitions you have received from such prestigious institutions as are the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Hana Ayala, President
PANGEA WORLD
University Tower
4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550
Irvine, California 92612

This combination of excellence and noble mission that transcends geographies and political boundaries uniquely resonates with the core principles of UNIS' mission, namely, to provide an international education that emphasizes academic excellence, promotes the appreciation of the diversity of persons and cultures, and offers a global curriculum that inspires in its students the spirit and ideals of the United Nations Charter.

The declaration, by the United Nations, of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity makes both the message and the timing of your event—coinciding with the upcoming UN General Assembly Sessions—most momentous. Our shared desire to channel the synergies of PANGAEA WORLD's and UNIS' missions into novel educational opportunities for UNIS' students (representing 120 countries) as future shepherds and guardians of the "bridges of knowledge" makes this event's execution on UNIS' premises most symbolic.

I look forward to interacting with you in the course of your event's preparation – and beyond.

Our newly appointed Executive Director, George Dymond has 19 September high on his priority list of events at the school's renovated building.

Warmest good wishes and regards,



Sylvia Howard Fuhrman
Assistant Secretary-General
Special Representative of the Secretary-General
for UNIS