

# United Nations Nations Unies

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT & HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR, YANGON, REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

Dear colleagues, please see below a message from the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres encouraging everyone of us to participate at a survey on sexual harassment in the workplace: [SafeSpaceSurvey2018.deloitte.com](https://SafeSpaceSurvey2018.deloitte.com).

Addressing sexual harassment in the workplace is one of my key management priorities. Harassment and bullying are just one aspect of the longstanding power imbalances that have deep roots and affect every area of our lives, including here at the United Nations.

From the outset of my tenure, I have taken steps to boost support for victims, to enhance the protection of whistleblowers and to improve reporting and investigation of allegations of harassment and other abuses. Among other measures, we have supported the establishment of a specialized investigations team within the Office of Internal Oversight Services; fast-tracked and streamlined procedures for making complaints; launched a database to prevent rehiring those disciplined for sexual harassment; and created the Speak-Up Helpline, which provides 24/7 guidance: +1 917-367-8910 or [speakup@un.org](mailto:speakup@un.org).

As we take these efforts forward, I am pleased to announce the upcoming launch of a system-wide exercise: "Safe Space: Survey on Sexual Harassment in our Workplace", which will help us to achieve a better understanding of the prevalence, nature and experience of sexual harassment. For the United Nations system, this is the first survey of its kind, and is intended to demonstrate our common resolve to eradicate sexual harassment and ensure a safe and harmonious workplace. More than 30 organizations across the UN family will be participating.

The survey will be conducted independently by the consulting company Deloitte and will be open to staff and non-staff personnel from 6 to 20 November. It will be administered in all six official languages. And it will be confidential and anonymous; no identifying information will be collected, and no one within the UN system will have access to the raw data. I count on your candid feedback.

This is a survey for everyone, whether or not we have been personally affected by sexual harassment. The questions call upon our experiences and perceptions, and I hope they will encourage you to reflect more broadly on our organizational culture. The results will guide our efforts to strengthen prevention and response to sexual harassment, and to support victims.

Your participation can make a lasting difference.

Thank you for joining me in this important initiative.

**António Guterres**