

December 13, 2017

Mr. António Guterres Secretary General United Nations Headquarters New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Secretary General:

On behalf of the American Psychological Association (APA) and our United Nations NGO Representatives, we are writing to express our condolences for the loss of life and the suffering that resulted from the recent callous attack on the United Nations base in the North Kivu region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). We condemn this heinous incident, which led to the tragic deaths of 15 Tanzanian peacekeepers, and we hope for the best possible outcome for the civilians also affected. We support the determination and charge of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC. We also wish to honor the Congolese military who, together with United Nations peacekeepers, have made the ultimate sacrifice in so courageously upholding the highest aims of humanity.

APA has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Department of Public Information (DPI). As psychologists, we have a profound appreciation for the suffering that results from such loss and for its traumatic impact as it reverberates throughout the whole of humanity. As members of the United Nations community, we also join with those throughout the world who share our belief that an attack on the UN is an attack upon us all.

Sincerely,

Antonio E. Puente, PhD

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President

Arthur C. Evans, Jr., PhD Chief Executive Officer

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Janet Sigal, PhD

Main UN/NGO Representative

