



UACHTARÁN NA hÉIREANN
PRESIDENT OF IRELAND

**Message from President Michael D. Higgins for Action 2015 –
Global Day of Action - 24th September 2015**

May I congratulate all of you for gathering in Ireland today on this Global Day of Action which has been organised, a message of hope, urgency and action to the Heads of State who will gather at the United Nations in New York tomorrow in order to agree the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

Tomorrow the world's decision-makers will agree what we all hope will be an ambitious but achievable plan of action for our people, our planet and our welfare, a plan that will seek to strengthen universal peace and by eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

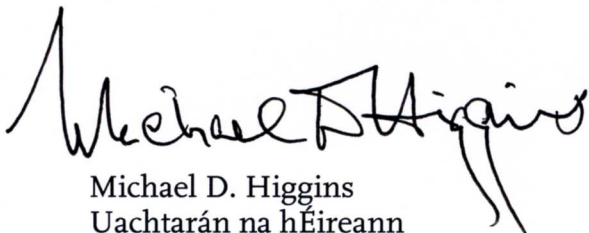
It is my hope that by 2030, we will look back on the 25th September 2015 as a decisive moment in global history; a moment when the nations of the world united to secure peace, to deliver freedom, equality and human rights for all and to eradicate poverty and hunger, to achieve a human flourishing in a sustainable and peaceful planet in all its diversity.

It is the challenge for all of us – elected representatives, NGO workers, students, activists and concerned citizens – over the next fifteen years, to use whatever means we have at our disposal to continue to hold governments to account, to press for implementation and ensure that decisions are truly based on the needs of the people, and particularly those who are marginalised and most vulnerable, our sisters and brothers in the human family worldwide.

It is the task of all of us to ensure that governments genuinely implement the post-2015 sustainable development agenda and the interlinked climate action plan that will emerge from COP21 this December in Paris, and that they put monitoring in place that will enable us all to turn the agreements into a reality for this and future generations.

Today's gathering is an important and inspiring one; an act of global solidarity, a gathering which gives us all confidence and hope that, with the support of engaged citizens around the world we will, in fifteen years time, stand up and declare with one global voice that 'we have truly transformed the world.'

Go raibh mile maith agaibh go léir.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael D. Higgins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'g'.

Michael D. Higgins
Uachtarán na hÉireann
President of Ireland