Identical letters dated 9 December 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER), which was authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/1 of 19 September 2014 on the Ebola outbreak pursuant to my letters of 17 September 2014 (A/69/389-S/2014/679).

I am pleased to inform you of my intention to appoint Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed (Mauritania) as my Special Representative for UNMEER. I have consulted with Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization, with respect to this appointment. Mr. Ould Cheikh Ahmed succeeds Anthony Banbury (United States of America), who will return to New York in early January 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. Banbury for his vision and leadership of UNMEER, as well as his commitment to fighting this unprecedented Ebola outbreak. In his role as Special Representative for UNMEER, Mr. Ould Cheikh Ahmed will work closely with my Special Envoy on Ebola, Dr. David Nabarro, and with the Governments in the region and other partners.

I am grateful to Member States for their continued commitment and support to my Special Envoy on Ebola, Dr. Nabarro, as well as to UNMEER.

(Signed) BAN Ki-moon
Biographical note

Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed (Mauritania)

Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed was appointed Deputy Special Representative and Deputy Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), United Nations Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, Libya on 1 March 2014.

Mr. Ould Cheikh Ahmed has had a distinguished and highly accomplished career with the United Nations over a period spanning more than 28 years. Prior to serving in Libya, Mr. Ould Cheikh Ahmed served as Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the Syrian Arab Republic between 2008 and 2012, and in Yemen from 2012 to 2014. He also held several positions with the United Nations Children’s Fund, including as Director of Change Management in New York, Deputy Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa in Nairobi, and Representative in Georgia.

Mr. Ould Cheikh Ahmed holds a Master’s degree in human resources development from the University of Manchester (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), a Bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Montpellier (France) and an Advanced Certificate in Economics and Social Policy Analysis from Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (the Netherlands).

Born in 1960, Mr. Ould Cheikh Ahmed is fluent in English, French and Arabic.