

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017  
TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

30 October 2015

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to promulgate the enclosed revision of the *Saving Lives Together* framework. *Saving Lives Together* was initiated in 2006 as a collaboration mechanism for the United Nations and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to improve the security of field operations. *Saving Lives Together* is supported by Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the High Level Committee on Management and the Chief Executive Board, and was further reinforced in 2014 through the adoption of a *Saving Lives Together* policy for the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS).

*Saving Lives Together* is a reflection of our collective responsibility for United Nations and NGO colleagues, who often work side by side to deliver critical assistance to vulnerable populations. The importance of implementing important mandates in the face of challenging security conditions adds new urgency for all stakeholders to collaborate more closely and effectively to improve security arrangements for our colleagues in the field.

The revision of the *Saving Lives Together* framework was undertaken through broad consultation with field practitioners, NGO consortia and UN agencies, and is based on several reviews and surveys. The new framework will for the first time provide a single collaboration platform for the United Nations and the entire spectrum of NGOs in the humanitarian and development communities. The revision further aims to achieve a more consistent and systematic implementation of *Saving Lives Together*, with a focus on mainstreaming collaboration arrangements and information sharing as key elements.

We encourage all stakeholders in the United Nations and the NGO community, particularly those responding to crisis situations, to continue supporting this important initiative.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen O'Brien  
Under-Secretary-General for  
Humanitarian Affairs  
and  
Emergency Relief Coordinator



Helen Clark  
Under-Secretary-General  
and Administrator of the  
United Nations  
Development Programme



Peter Drennan  
Under-Secretary-General  
for  
Safety and Security