

Howard County

George Howard Building 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392 Jon Weinstein Councilmember

District 1

July 11, 2017

Amit Kapadia Executive Director The Unforgotten 3709 Grosvenor Drive Ellicott City, MD 21042

Dear Mr. Kapadia:

As your representative on the Howard County Council in Maryland, I commend your efforts to create the web portal <u>www.FundTheUN.org</u> to facilitate fundraising for UN Charities.

I share your concerns about proposed U.S. government cuts for vital UN agencies and programs (such as UNICEF), including peacekeeping efforts and regular budgetary responsibilities. These cuts would threaten the critical work of the UN in bringing stability to some of the world's most remote and dangerous locations, delivering lifesaving humanitarian aid, and achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

I am pleased to hear that "The Unforgotten" (www.unforgotten.org), a not-for-profit based in my district, proposed this excellent idea and is leading the effort to create this portal to increase individual donor support for the UN. Given the current political environment, in which countries may cut back on state support, we must create inventive pathways for individuals and organizations around the world to support the UN. Additionally, I applaud the work that "The Unforgotten" does in the field, in Sierra Leone, in India, and in Zambia – field work that works towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals – goals for lifting a billion people out of extreme poverty.

I am pleased to convey my support of your efforts to create the web portal. Please let me know how I can help further in your humanitarian work, which I see is guided by a commitment to the United Nations and its mission.

Sincerely,

Jon Weinstein District 1 Councilmember Howard County Council