



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

4 October 2019

Dear Mr. Tuncak,

I wish to thank you for your letter of 31 July 2019 seeking a further update on the efforts of the United Nations to support the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo.

Since your previous communication, the trust fund in support of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities has indeed received a first contribution. While this initial contribution is welcome, it falls short of the resources required to address the basic needs of the affected communities. Efforts to mobilize additional resources, including in follow-up to my appeal addressed to a number of Member States and other partners in June 2017, will therefore continue.

The United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the United Nations Kosovo team, comprising of the Funds, Agencies and Programmes, pay particular attention to the most vulnerable communities of Kosovo. Following the Sustainable Development Goals principle “Leaving no one behind”, the United Nations Kosovo team has mainstreamed the protection of minorities, in particular Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians, in its annual programme and project planning, whereby the provision of legal, psychosocial and economic support is given particular attention. As part of its focus on minority issues and trust-building among communities, UNMIK also pursues advocacy efforts in support of improving the social inclusion of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities and full exercise of their social, economic and cultural rights.

I believe that it is our shared duty to support the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo. We will continue our efforts to mobilize resources and I hope that, with additional support from Member States, meaningful assistance will be provided to the affected communities.

Yours sincerely,

with my consent for mail
signed

António Guterres

Mr. Baskut Tuncak
Special Rapporteur on the implications for
human rights of the environmentally sound
management and disposal of hazardous
substances and wastes
Geneva