

Hon. Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o,  
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Thursday, 06 October 2011

Dear Hon. Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o,

On behalf of the family, Board Members and staff of the Green Belt Movement, we would like to offer our sincerest thanks for your condolence message on the passing of Professor Wangari Muta Maathai. We greatly appreciate that you took the time to come to our offices and offer your tribute to our inspirational leader and friend.


Professor Maathai's passing is a great loss to us all. She had a profound impact on so many people's lives, as has been shown by the unprecedented outpouring of grief that has been witnessed in Kenya and globally. We have had the honour of working alongside Professor Maathai in the Green Belt Movement and have seen firsthand her tireless commitment to the environment, human rights, democracy and women's empowerment, often in the face of seemingly insurmountable barriers.

Although her untimely departure has left a huge gap, which will be difficult to fill, we will strive even harder to continue her important work and legacy at the Green Belt Movement. In her own words, "we must not tire, we must not give up, we must persist." Her numerous achievements serve as an inspiration for us all.

We hope that you will join with us in remembering her extraordinary life at her upcoming memorial service on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 10 a.m. at the Holy Family Minor Basilica, Nairobi.

Once again we would like to thank you for taking the time to honour Professor Maathai, it is deeply appreciated by her family, friends and colleagues alike.

Kindest regards,



Professor Karanja Njoroge  
Executive Director



Ms. Njeri Gakonyo,  
Interim Chair of the Board