



Sindile Ngonyama
President
South African Institute of Architects

Paris, December 6, 2013

Dear Sindile, dear Hassan
Dear Friends, Dear Colleagues,

Today the entire world gathers together to mourn the death of Nelson Mandela. In the name of the community of architects and of the UIA, allow us to express to the architects of South Africa and to all your fellow citizens our deep sorrow for the loss of this symbol of freedom who has inspired and will continue to inspire all of humanity. Nelson Mandela devoted his life to his country and today it is time for all of us to "let him go."

Such an exemplary figure illuminates the future of the world and of your nation. His memory will guide each of us in our quests for equality and justice. Moreover, we believe and desire that our debates and meetings at the upcoming congress next year in Durban evoke these values. This congress will be also a catalyst for all of the world's architects, united by the memory of Nelson Mandela and of his impassioned struggle for universal human rights. To cite Mr Mandela himself : "It always seems impossible until it's done."

Please accept my dear friends, dear Sindile, dear Hassan, our sincere condolences and permit us to pay our profound respects.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, circular loop with a smaller loop inside, and a long, thin tail extending downwards.

Albert Dubler
UIA President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Michel Barmaki
UIA Secretary general

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS

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