

From: Kridelka Philippe - Ambassador - Belgium - Bangkok

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Subject: Condolences

On behalf of the Belgian government, and on behalf of the Belgian community in Thailand, I would like to present to all UNFPA colleagues my most sincere condolences on the sad occasion of the passing away of UNFPA Executive Director Dr Babatunde Osotimehin.

I have worked intensely with UNSG Babatunde and his team when I was Director of the Cabinet of UNESCO's Director general Ms Irina Bokova and later as Director of UNESCO's Office in New York, and I do keep a vivid memory of his enthusiasm and positive leadership within the UN family, in the interest of all UNFPA missions, including gender equality and the rights of women in the South as well as in the North of our planet.

Dr Babatunde's professionalism, commitment and energy will be missed by many in our international community, at a time when, more than ever, the UN needs strong champions to promote its important role and its universal values .



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