

UNITED NATIONS



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

4 February 2022

Dear Ms. Nwakanma,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 27 January 2022, sent on behalf of a diverse range of civil society groups from around the world, regarding the recruitment of the next Envoy on Technology.

The Secretary-General exercises with great care the discretionary authority entrusted to him by the United Nations General Assembly, to ensure transparency and to maintain the institutional safeguards of the recruitment and selection process of senior officials, while protecting the privacy of candidates.

In accordance with the established practice for the selection and appointment of senior leaders, the Secretary-General initiated the recruitment process through a Note Verbale addressed to all Member States, along with a vacancy announcement on the United Nations Senior Leadership Vacancies web page. The Secretary-General made a specific request to Member States for the nomination of women candidates and to the public to encourage women candidates to apply to the vacancy.

Following a comprehensive review of nominations and applications, shortlisted candidates who meet the profile and competencies for the position will be interviewed by a panel of experts and a recommendation will be made to the Secretary-General. In accordance with established practice, all screening and reference checking of candidates, including human rights conduct and conflicts of interest, will be conducted by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

Ms. Nnenna Nwakanma
Chief Web Advocate
World Wide Web Foundation
Washington

In selecting the most suitable candidate for his senior management team, the Secretary-General strives to ensure that the candidate fully meets the profile for the position and that the selection decision enhances the objectives of the Organization for gender parity and geographic diversity.

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I should like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and engagement with the United Nations, in particular in supporting his efforts to promote the core principle of merit, as outlined in the Charter of the United Nations, for the selection of the next Envoy on Technology.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. Courtenay Rattray', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

E. Courtenay Rattray
Chef de Cabinet