



Former Prime Minister of Portugal António Guterres was sworn in as the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations, succeeding Ban Ki-moon who steps down at the end of December 2016.

Speaking following his swearing in by the President of the General Assembly, Mr. Peter Thomson, Mr Guterres said that he would continue the keystone achievements of Ban Ki-moon but that he also would strongly focus on measures to prevent conflict.

Mr. Guterres told delegates and UN staff in the General Assembly that "the UN must be ready to change." He emphasized that he intended to put development at the centre of the work of the UN, that a strong culture of accountability was key and that management reform was needed for the Organization to meet the challenges it faces.

In outlining some of those challenges, Mr. Guterres stressed the need for the UN to be nimble, to work for management reform, to improve communication of the work of the United Nations to people around the world.

António Guterres sworn in as next UN Secretary-General

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