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**RUSH TRANSCRIPT: MAYOR DE BLASIO DELIVERS REMARKS WITH SECRETARY
GENERAL BAN KI-MOON**

Mayor Bill de Blasio: Well, I will just respond briefly with this. First of all, Secretary General, thank you for your leadership. I have said that so much of the progress that's being made in the world on issues like climate change is because of your leadership. And I say this as an absolute compliment – you've been uncompromising. As the most recognizable global leader, you have called upon all of us to go farther in addressing climate change and your voice is being heard. And we're acting, in large measure, because of your leadership.

I want to congratulate you on the 70th anniversary of the United Nations. New York City is so honored to host this extraordinary organization. We're looking forward to participating fully in all the celebrations. The United Nations is a blessing to this world, and certainly a blessing to the City of New York. And I think your participation today in the IDNYC effort sends a powerful message to people in communities all over this city that this I.D. is for them because we embrace all people here in New York City.

I emphasize again, the municipal I.D. is for anyone and everyone, regardless of documentation status. In a world where issues of migration are so deeply debated – where sadly, there's so much conflict associated with migration – we're trying to send a message here that if you're a New Yorker, you're a New Yorker – period. It doesn't matter where you're from, it doesn't matter your documentation status – you are part of this community.

And this I.D. – this I.D. card is meant to be a unifying element, and to address the real material needs that people have – the ability to be able to exist in this economy, and do all the basics – a bank account, rent an apartment – all the basics that families need. And we're so proud of the response – hundreds of thousands of people having signed up already for an I.D. And as the Secretary General said, the tremendous response from our cultural institutions – embracing this idea, supporting it, and saying in the process they want all New Yorkers of every background to come in and enjoy the extraordinary cultural attributes of this city.

So, Mr. Secretary General, thank you. You, as the voice of global unity, are sending a message to people all over this city today that this I.D. is for them. I would say you have proven many times over that you're a true New Yorker, but I'm glad we made it formal today. Thank you.

[Laughter]

[Applause]

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