

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to introduce to this Committee the Secretary-General's eighth annual progress report on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva, which covers the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

Construction and renovation works continued to advance during the reporting period, despite the many additional challenges resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Several successful mitigation actions were taken to enable progress in the work and mitigate the impact of the pandemic, including a guaranteed maximum price contract for the renovation of the historic Palais des Nations buildings, which was successfully negotiated within the original budget level. In addit

