

**EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION**

TEL: 880-2-883-7150-4

FAX: 880-2-9881677, 9885688

E-MAIL: [DhakaPA@state.gov](mailto:DhakaPA@state.gov)

WEBSITE: <http://dhaka.usembassy.gov>



**REMARKS  
BY  
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH DAN MOZENA  
NANDO'S  
HEAL THE WORLD INITIATIVE  
GULHAN II, DHAKA  
JULY 5, 2013**

Mr. Md Gaziul Haque, Chairman, MGH Group

Mr. Shafkat Sakin, , Brand Manager, MGH Group

Asalaam 'malaikum and good morning

Nando's is well known to me. Half of my career has been in southern Africa, where Nando's are everywhere, so I felt at home when I discovered a Nando's only a few blocks from my house.

Knowing Nando's, I am not surprised that you are engaged in this Heal the World initiative to make the world a better place.

Coming from a farm where we had lots of forest cover, I especially appreciate the role that trees play in sustaining and improving our environment.

As I crisscross Bangladesh from Tetulia to Teknaf, from Sylhet to Satkhira, I make special efforts to plant trees ... I guess that is my little contribution to making the world a bit greener.

More importantly, America is deeply committed to helping Bangladesh confront the effects of global climate change. We are actively working with the government in nearly two dozen national parks and forests to introduce new park management systems that engage local communities in preserving and sustaining these natural assets in a fashion that enables the local people to directly benefit from these parks while safeguarding them. It is a win-win situation for all, most especially for Bangladesh, which benefits from preserving these natural barriers to the effects of climate change.

But governments alone cannot preserve the environment.

Corporations ... companies like Nando's ... have a huge role to play through corporate social responsibility to help make the world a better place.

I applaud Nando's for its role in driving this Heal the Future Initiative, in planting trees today and in May, when Nando's helped Bangladeshi bicyclists plant trees at Jahangirnagar University.

I applaud Nando's for introducing energy-saving cookware that has a much reduced carbon footprint.

I thank Nando's for this opportunity to come here today, to learn about your good work, and to plant another tree to help ensure a better world tomorrow for our children.

Thanks.

=====

*\*As prepared for delivery*