

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 18, 2015

I send greetings to the international community marking Midwinter's Day in Antarctica, and I am honored to recognize your contributions to engineering and scientific understanding.

Antarctica is a continent that preserves important pieces of our planetary history and holds answers to enduring scientific mysteries. Offering unique perspectives into the past, it is a place where brave minds can help uncover the origins of the universe, chart the phases of Earth's evolution, and track the continental shifts that shape our world. Through your innovative efforts, you help tell a chapter in the world's story, push the limits of scientific observation, and deepen our understanding of the events that led us to this day and age.

Antarctic research also guides our path forward. Earth's environmental systems are interdependent and fragile, and your combined efforts allow us to recognize the critical role Antarctica plays in global systems as the Antarctic ice sheet responds to our changing climate, and in turn influences our oceans. This knowledge can determine necessary actions to safeguard our planet and address climate change so we can forge a more stable, sustainable future for the generations that will follow us.

Your work in the Antarctic reflects an unwavering spirit of discovery, and I am grateful for your dedication to science and engineering and to unlocking the power these disciplines have to explain our past and inform our future. I wish you the very best as you continue exploring uncharted frontiers for the benefit of all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style. The signature is centered at the bottom of the page.