



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

21 January 2009

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999) which established the mandate for the High-level Coordinator for missing Kuwaitis and third-country nationals and missing Kuwaiti property, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on these matters.

A letter dated 26 March 2008 (S/2008/206) from the President of the Security Council requested a comprehensive report, twelve months after the appointment of the new High-level Coordinator, to include an update on progress during that period, and an assessment of the progress that might be achieved, including the conditions necessary and the timescale for completion of the mandate. I appointed Ambassador Gennady Tarasov of the Russian Federation as the High-level Coordinator on 24 April 2008, to succeed the late Ambassador Yuli Vorontsov. The comprehensive report is therefore due in April 2009.

I strongly believe that every effort should be made by all concerned parties in the coming months to locate and identify the mortal remains of as many Kuwaiti and third-country nationals as possible, so as to bring their files to a close. I trust that tangible progress on this issue, as well as on the search for and return to Kuwait of the country's archives, can be made before the presentation of the comprehensive report to the Security Council.

His Excellency
Sheikh Mohammad Al-Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the State of Kuwait
Kuwait

In this connection, I should be grateful for your Government's views and suggestions aimed at complying with the above-mentioned request of the Security Council. I would appreciate receiving these views and suggestions by 15 March 2009 so they can be taken into consideration in preparation of the report.

I take this opportunity to reiterate the call, made in my December 2008 report (S/2008/761), for renewed efforts to accelerate the implementation of this humanitarian mandate through concrete activities on the ground.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ki" and last name "Ban" being more prominent than the middle name "Moon".

BAN Ki-moon

Letters for SG's signature

SG's LETTERS TO MEMBER STATES REGARDING THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S REQUEST FOR A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE MANDATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCR 1284

SG Letters to Iraq and Kuwait:

1. His Excellency Sheikh Mohammad Al-Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait.
2. His Excellency Mr. Hoshiyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

SG Letter to 14 addressees re: archives:

1. His Excellency Mr. Hoshiyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.
2. His Excellency Mr. Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Attiyah, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council.
3. His Excellency Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.
4. His Excellency Mr. Amre Moussa, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States.
5. His Excellency Mr. David Miliband, MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
6. Her Excellency Mrs. Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State of the United States of America.
7. His Excellency Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Al-Khalifa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain.
8. His Excellency Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates.
9. His Excellency Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al-Thani, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar.
10. His Excellency Mr. Manouchehr Mottaki, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
11. His Excellency Mr. Ali Babacan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey.
12. His Excellency Mr. Walid Al-Moualem, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic.
13. His Excellency Mr. Salah Bashir, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
14. His Royal Highness Prince Saud Al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Drafter: DPA

Proofread by: JL/MZ

Approved by:



Date: 10 January 2009

29-00622



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I have the honour to refer to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999) which established the mandate for the High-level Coordinator for missing Kuwaitis and third-country nationals and missing Kuwaiti property, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on these matters. Twenty-seven reports have been submitted, the latest dated 4 December 2008.

I continue to be concerned at the absence of progress in finding the national archives, the return of which Kuwait deems essential. No reliable information about their whereabouts has emerged so far. I strongly believe that every effort should be made to intensify the search for the archives with a view to accelerating the implementation of the mandate.

The issue of the Kuwaiti national archives will be included in a comprehensive report requested by the Security Council (S/2008/206) and due in April 2009. In this connection, I should be grateful if your Government could kindly provide me by 15 March 2009 with any information or suggestions it might have with regard to locating and returning the missing Kuwaiti State and historical documents.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. David Miliband, MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth
Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
London

Letters for SG's signature

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Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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