

H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the
United Nations

No.: 3071980

The Hague, 4 December 2008

Your Excellency,

Thank you for your letter of 24 October 2008 regarding a possible multinational force for Somalia. The Netherlands is very concerned about the current situation in Somalia. With the recent political developments, humanitarian crisis and low levels of security, the situation in the country is grim indeed. Many years of conflict have destabilized Somalia, especially the southern and central regions.

This is why, in addition to supplying humanitarian aid, the Netherlands feels it is important to contribute in other areas. In 2008, our total aid budget was 14 million euros. We are also financially supporting the Djibouti Process that is currently taking place under auspices of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. Furthermore, the Netherlands provided naval escorts for World Food Programme food transports to Somalia from March until the end of June 2008. A second Dutch frigate is currently providing escorts for the WFP until the middle of December. We are considering a third naval contribution for securing humanitarian transports as part of the EU's Operation Atalanta.

The Netherlands is willing to consider financial support for the envisaged multinational force once the plans for this operation are more concrete and its financial needs are specified.

Yours sincerely,



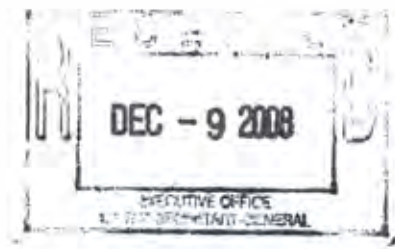
Dr. Jan Peter Balkenende
Prime Minister of the Kingdom



The Ambassador



Permanente Vertegenwoordiging van het
Koninkrijk der Nederlanden



New York, 5 December 2008

Dear Vijay -

Please find enclosed an advance copy of a letter of H.E. Dr. Jan Peter Balkenende, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, to the Secretary General of the United Nations regarding international support for the envisaged multinational force for Somalia.

K. u. j. m. d. .
Frank

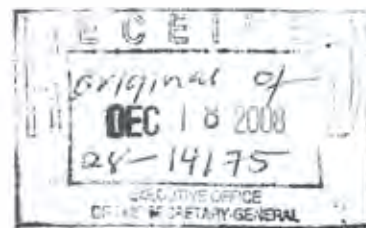
Frank Majoor

Mr. Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet
Under-Secretary-General
Room: S-3830
United Nations, New York

The Netherlands
Somalia



MINISTER-PRESIDENT



H.E. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the
United Nations

No.: 3071980

The Hague, 4 December 2008

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Yours sincerely,

Dr. Jan Peter Balkenende
Prime Minister of the Kingdom

The Ambassador



Permanente Vertegenwoordiging van het
Koninkrijk der Nederlanden

New York, 17 December 2008



Mr Secretary General.

It is my pleasure to forward to you a letter from H.E. Dr. Jan Peter Balkenende, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Yours sincerely,
Frank Majoer

Frank Majoer

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York