



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

29 December 2010

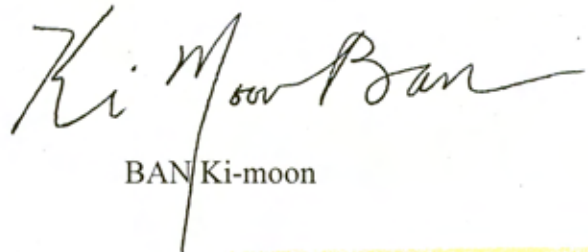
Excellency,

I would like to congratulate you on the occasion of your confirmation as Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq. The formation of a new government of national partnership marks an important step forward in the efforts of Iraq towards national reconciliation and building a strong and stable State. I have been encouraged by the evolution of the democratic institutions of Iraq, and I look forward to the leadership of the Iraqi Administration in guiding the country along a path of peace and development.

It gave me pleasure to welcome the decisions of the Security Council on 15 December 2010 in what will formally end a difficult chapter in the modern history of Iraq. I believe that the people of Iraq have suffered for too long, and the time has come to lift Iraq from its remaining international obligations under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. As the only such remaining measures pertain to the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, I strongly urge the Iraqi Administration to fulfil its outstanding obligations without delay.

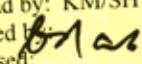
I remain firmly committed to seeing the United Nations do all it can to assist the people and Government of Iraq, in accordance with the mandate given by the Security Council under resolution 1936 (2010). To this end, I would be pleased to address some of these issues in greater detail with you in person early next year.

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



BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Nuri Kamel al-Maliki
Prime Minister of the
Republic of Iraq
Baghdad

SG letter to PM Iraq
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