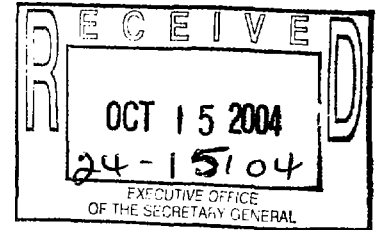


DDA

PH



Note to Mr. Riza

**LETTER TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF TOGO RE THE UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA**

1. Please find attached a letter addressed to Mr. Kokou Tozoun, Foreign Minister of Togo, in response to his facsimile to the Secretary-General dated 28 September 2004. (#24-14296)
2. I herewith seek your approval to send this letter on behalf of the Secretary-General.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nobuyasu Abe".

Nobuyasu Abe
14 October 2004

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS-ADRESSE POSTALE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
CABLE ADDRESS -ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE: UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE:

13 October 2004

Excellency,

I have the honour, on behalf of the Secretary-General, to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 28 September 2004 on the situation of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa.

As you know, the Regional Centre was established by the General Assembly to function on the basis of existing resources within the Secretariat and on voluntary contributions that Member States and other institutions may offer. However, over the past years, despite sustained efforts to mobilize resources for the operations of the Centre, Member States and other donors have not made the necessary contributions that would ensure the continued operations of the Centre in Lomé. It was in this context that the Secretary-General in his report (A/59/209) to the 59th Session of the General Assembly expressed his serious concerns about the precarious financial situation that might lead to the temporary suspension or relocation of the Centre's operations to Headquarters in New York.

The Department for Disarmament Affairs continues to sensitize potential donors and further hopes that the deliberations of the 59th Session of the General Assembly on the situation of the Centre would recommend a durable financial arrangement that can guarantee its long-term operation in Lomé. However, given that the funds for the Centre's operations will be depleted by 30 November 2004, the Secretariat would be, most regrettably, obliged to relocate the Centre's operations, at least temporarily, to New York if a solution is not found before that date. Your Excellency's Government would be informed of any decision on this matter.

//..

His Excellency
Mr. Kokou Tozoun
Foreign Minister of Togo
Lomé

I would like to take this opportunity to thank your Excellency's Government for the efforts it has continued to deploy in fulfillment of its obligations for the effective functioning of the Centre as contained in the Host Country Agreement.

Looking forward to continuing cooperation with Your Excellency's Government in the revitalization process of the Centre, please accept, honourable Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Nobuyasu Abe
Under-Secretary-General
for Disarmament Affairs