

United Nations



Nations Unies

Executive Office of the Secretary-General
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

To: Mr. Nambiar,

Please see attached a note from USG Guéhenno, recommending that following the appointment of Mr. Osman Saleh as the new FM of Eritrea, the SG should telephone him, urging him to find a flexible way of restoring the integrity of the cease-fire arrangements and the Eritrea/Ethiopia peace process. Talking points are attached.

Thank you.

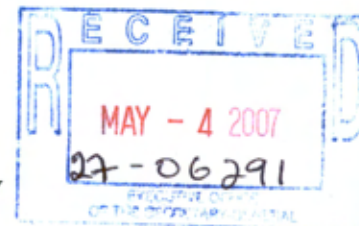
Andrew Gilmour
4 May 2007

cc: Mr. Kim Won-soo

CdC		SG	
For SG's approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's attention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
For SG's information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seen	<input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's signature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Signed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date	07.05.2007	Date	
Comment (if applicable): ✓ pls arrange a call to FM Saleh.			

27-06191

AG



PRIORITY

Note to Mr. Nambiar

Appointment of the new Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea

1. As you are aware, in April 2007, the Government of Eritrea announced the appointment of Mr. Osman Saleh as the new Minister of Foreign Affairs. This appointment comes at a critical time. You will recall that in its resolution 1741 (2007) of 30 January 2007, the Security Council called upon the Secretary-General and the international community to "engage with Eritrea and Ethiopia to help them to normalize their relations, to promote stability between the parties, and to lay the foundation for sustainable peace in the region". Subsequently, the Secretary-General held meetings with the Permanent Representatives of both countries during which he urged the parties to engage in efforts aimed at overcoming the present dangerous stalemate and to work towards creating an environment conducive to reaching a lasting and comprehensive settlement.
2. On 25 April, the Secretary-General also met with the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia, Mr. Seyoum Mesfin. During this meeting, the Secretary-General noted that he was encouraged by the speech of Prime Minister Meles before the Ethiopian Parliament in March, during which the Prime Minister reiterated "Ethiopia's acceptance of the EEBC decision on the border demarcation with Eritrea". The Secretary-General appealed to Ethiopia to translate this expression of political commitment into practice. He also emphasized that he would strongly urge the two parties to demonstrate solid commitment to the letter and spirit of the Algiers Agreements.
3. At the same time, the situation on the ground continues to deteriorate, with the parties deploying military personnel supported by heavy weapons and other equipment, in close proximity to the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ). The two countries also continue to exchange hostile public statements, including with regard to Somalia, where both are deeply involved. Restrictions imposed by Eritrea and, to some extent, Ethiopia, on UNMEE's freedom of movement, severely impede operational activities of the Mission. The military activities on the ground may eventually lead to a confrontation.
4. Against this background, we recommend that the Secretary-General call the new Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea at his earliest convenience, to congratulate him and urge him to find a flexible way of restoring the integrity of the cease-fire arrangements and the Eritrea/Ethiopia peace process. Talking points for the proposed telephone conversation are attached.

OK

pls arrange a
call to FM. Saleh.

> 6

call took place on 11/5

J. Jean-Marie Guéhenno
3 May 2007

MAY 11 2007

cc: Mr. Pascoe

SG OFFICE

#311 7 May