



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

OIC
UNSCO/gaza

15 January 2009

Excellency,

I wish to thank you for your letter dated 5 January 2009, which transmits a copy of the Final Communiqué of the Ministerial-level Executive Committee meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

I share the concern of the Executive Committee over the situation in Gaza and the heavy price being paid by the civilian population. As you will know, I have repeatedly called for an immediate end to the violence, and I have expressed my condemnation of the excessive use of force by Israel as well as the ongoing rocket and mortar attacks by Hamas and other Palestinian militants.

I have also maintained continuous contact with regional and international leaders, urging them to do more to attain an immediate ceasefire, and I am profoundly troubled that the resolution of the Security Council for an immediate end to all violence and all military activities has not been heeded yet, and that the situation has escalated. Humanitarian conditions in Gaza have deteriorated, and I have made clear my call on Israel to facilitate the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance.

As you may be aware, I have now embarked on a trip to the region to underscore the urgent need to reach an immediate ceasefire and the implementation of Security Council resolution 1860.

I wish to assure you of my intention to continue diplomatic efforts of the United Nations in support of the search for peace. I remain determined to contribute to the achievement of what must be our common ultimate goal – ending the occupation that began in 1967, the establishment of a Palestinian state and its coexistence in peace and security alongside Israel, with the attainment of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israel and all its Arab neighbours, based on the relevant Security Council resolutions.

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

BAN Ki-moon

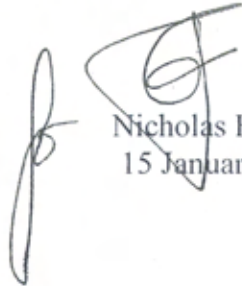
His Excellency
Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu
Secretary-General of the Organization
of the Islamic Conference
Jedda

29-00101



To: Mr. Nambiar,

Please find attached for your approval and SG's signature a letter addressed to the SG of the OIC.



Nicholas Haysom
15 January 2009

Cc: KWS

29-00101

JAN 16 2009

ROUTING SLIP

FICHE DE TRANSMISSION

TO:		
A: Mr. Nambiar		
FROM:		
DE: Michael Meyer		
Room No. - No de Bureau	Extension - Poste	Date
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YOUR ATTENTION		VOTRE ATTENTION
AS DISCUSSED		COMME CONVENU
AS REQUESTED		SUITE A VOTRE DEMANDE
NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

For signature of the SG
Letter to H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu
Secretary-General of the Organisation
of the Islamic Conference

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DM: Venson Shadrack, central

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NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

Tosh,
We erroneously sent
this document to MRM
and to Pascoe without
copying NH hence it
has been returned by
VN for NH's input
before approval. Kindly
make input and liaise
with DPA regarding
the attached response
transmission

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Organisation of the Islamic Conference
The Secretary General

Organisation de la Conférence Islamique
Le Secrétaire Général

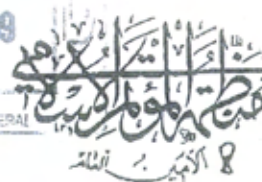


JAN - 5 2009

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GENERAL SECRETARIAT



OIC/RAL-02/EXTOLL/2009/ 000139

Jeddah: 05 JAN 2009

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Pascoe
VN
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Excellency,

I am pleased to bring to your kind attention that the OIC Executive Committee met at the ministerial level at the OIC General Secretariat's headquarters in Jeddah on January 3rd 2009, to consider the serious developments in the Gaza Strip caused by the escalating Israeli aggression. Enclosing a copy of the Final Communiqué of this Executive Committee meeting, I would like to highlight the following important issues addressed by the meeting.

The recent Israeli aggression against Gaza claimed the lives of hundreds of civilians, including children, women, the elderly, and in some cases entire families. Due to this ongoing aggression, the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip is deteriorating at an alarming rate and has reached unprecedented levels. The Executive Committee considered the Israeli aggression, which has caused massive destruction of homes, civilian facilities, infrastructure and places of worship, as a blatant violation of international law.

The Committee, moreover, expressed its dismay over the inability of the UN Security Council to take the necessary steps for a ceasefire and the protection of the civilians in Gaza. The failure of the Security Council to shoulder its responsibility to maintain international peace and security would, definitely, send a negative signal to the Palestinians in Gaza that the international community is not doing enough to protect their lives and their basic human rights. Conversely, Israel is likely to interpret it as a green light to carry through its aggression.

Therefore, the Executive Committee decided to exert concerted efforts in coordination with other international and regional organizations towards convening the UN Security Council to take

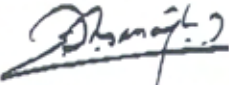
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measures to achieve an immediate ceasefire, end the Israeli aggression and provide protection to the Palestinian civilians.

You would certainly concur that the situation in Gaza is so severe that it does not bear any further delay in taking the necessary measures by the Security Council to stop the ongoing tragedy. In the event of failure by the United Nations Security Council to act immediately, other options ought to be considered by the international community. Therefore, the Executive Committee called for convening a meeting of the General Assembly under "Uniting for Peace", should the Security Council fail to take action.

I would like to invite Your Excellency to join our efforts in establishing an immediate international action capable of protecting the lives and human rights of the Palestinians, and providing the necessary humanitarian supplies. We would deeply appreciate your kind efforts in moving the Security Council towards taking measures to achieve a ceasefire and end the Israeli aggression.

I avail myself this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency my highest consideration.


Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu
Secretary General

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary General



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Mission Permanente d'Observation
de l'Organisation de la Conference Islamique
auprès des Nations Unies



Permanent Observer Mission
of the Organization of the Islamic Conference
to the United Nations

البعثة المراقبة الدائمة لنظمة المؤتمر الإسلامي لدى الأمم المتحدة

JAN - 5 2009

URGENT

OIC/NY/2009

The Permanent Observer Mission of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary General *and*

has the honor to transmit letter # OIC/PAL-02/EXFOLL/2009/00139 dated 5 January 2009 from the OIC Secretary General HE Prof Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu addressed to HE Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

It is requested that the OIC Secretary General's letter may kindly be submitted to the high addressee.

The Permanent Observer Mission of the OIC to the UN avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Executive Office of the Secretary General the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 5 January 2009



Executive Office of the UN Secretary General
(Kind attention: HE Ambassador Vijay Nambiar, Chef de Cabinet)
Fax# (212) 963 2155
CC: DPA (Kind Attention: USG Lynn Pascoe, Fax # 212 963 5065)

130 East 40th Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 883-0140 Fax: (212) 883-0143 e-mail: oic@un.int

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