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June 1, 2007

His Excellency
Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations Headquarters
42nd St at 1st Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Mr. Secretary-General:

I write to congratulate you for taking decisive action by leading the United Nations in forming an international court to try the suspects in the murder of the former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri. After six months of deliberations the Lebanese Parliament failed to make progress forming a tribunal, I applaud the Security Council for stepping in and voting Wednesday to form one unilaterally. All I can ask for now is that a swift investigation is completed and these killers are prosecuted and brought to justice as soon as possible.

Prime Minister Hariri's murder has been linked to Syrian intelligence officials, thanks to a U.N. investigation, who targeted him for his anti-Syrian views and who undoubtedly wanted to incite further violence in Lebanon. These actions cannot be defined as anything else but terrorism, and they typify Syria's tactics whose tentacles reach into extremism not only in Lebanon, but into Iraq and the Palestinian territories. Terrorism must be cut off at the root, and it is my hope that the trial of Hariri's murderers will show the extremists and their state sponsors that the civilized world will not cease until the assassinations and bombings end. I am pleased that the U.N. is joining America in this fight.

With the establishment of this tribunal, we have won one battle in the Global War on Terrorism. This step will not stop the violence, and some even argue it will cause more, but we must not be weakened or deterred. It is my hope that the Lebanese Parliament ratify the tribunal by June 10th, but if not, I believe the U.N. should use its full authority under the Chapter 7 resolution and move forward with the trial.

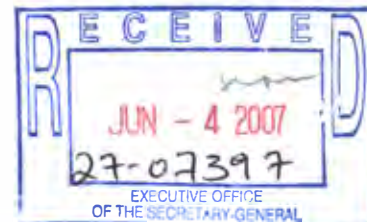
Once again, I am encouraged by your efforts in forming the tribunal, and I applaud you for helping win the War on Terrorism.

Sincerely,



VITO FOSSELLA
Member of Congress

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Facsimile

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Date: 6-01-07

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