



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

17 September 2012

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your letter dated 25 June 2012, following my visit to Zambia from 24 to 26 February 2012.

I acknowledge and appreciate the request to accelerate support from the United Nations to Zambia in its efforts to achieve gender equality. The establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) has strengthened the capacity of the United Nations to support Member States. UN Women has a universal mandate, including supporting intergovernmental bodies in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms, and helping Member States to implement these standards, through country and regional programmes, or through coordination mechanisms within the United Nations system.

In line with this, and following the decision by the UN Women Executive Director, Ms. Bachelet, will continue to provide support to Zambia in partnership with other United Nations agencies through its office in South Africa, as well as the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women.

I take careful note of the concerns expressed by some members of Parliament during my visit regarding the high cost of hosting refugees in Zambia, and I commend the Government and people of Zambia for the extraordinary hospitality they have extended to refugees from several countries. This has been recognized throughout the international community, including specifically by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

His Excellency
Mr. Patrick Matibini
Speaker of the National Assembly
of Zambia
Lusaka




12-07792

TRA/07/001

WOM/03/001

I further appreciate the efforts of the Government of Zambia, in collaboration with the United Nations, to bring to a close this chapter of displacement in the region. Allow me to assure Members of the Zambian Parliament of the United Nations continued operational support to the Government of Zambia to this end.

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



BAN Ki-moon

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

17 September 2012

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to His Excellency, Mr. Patrick Matibini, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Zambia.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Susana Malcora'.

Susana Malcora
Chef de Cabinet

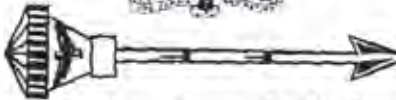
His Excellency
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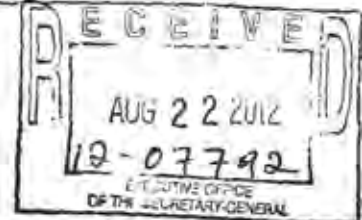
SPEAKER'S CHAMBERS



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ZAMBIA



ACTION Ms Bachelet / once c.d.
COPY CDC



25th June, 2012

H.E. Mr BAN Ki-moon,
The Secretary General,
United Nations,
New York,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Your Excellency,

(12-02358?)

I am in receipt, with thanks, of your letter dated 13th March, 2012, in which you expressed appreciation for the services and courtesies extended to Your Excellency when you visited Zambia on 24th February, 2012, on which occasion you addressed the National Assembly.


I note your compliments with gratitude. Your Excellency may wish to note that this was also a historic moment in the life of the National Assembly.

On behalf of the Honourable Members of Parliament, and staff of the National Assembly, and indeed on my own behalf, I extend our appreciation to Your Excellency for your visit and the historic address.

I would be grateful to receive an update in due course on your intimation regarding the request for the Women to open a United Nations office in Zambia, and also on concerns expressed by Members of Parliament regarding the high cost of hosting refugees in Zambia.

The National Assembly of Zambia remains indebted to the support it receives from the UNDP office in Lusaka towards the Parliamentary Reforms. I therefore look forward to strengthening relations between the United Nations, and the National Assembly of Zambia.

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


Hon Justice Dr Patrick Matibini, SC, MP.
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
/cmc

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