



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

22 October 2007

Excellency,

Thank you for your letter of 11 October 2007 informing me of the new date of the second meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Neighbouring Countries of Iraq and for inviting me again to participate.

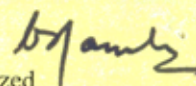
I am deeply honoured by your kind invitation. However, I regret to inform you that prior commitments will not permit me to attend the meeting on 2 and 3 November 2007 in Istanbul. I am confident that my Special Representative for Iraq, Mr. Staffan de Mistura, and Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Lynn Pascoe, will make excellent contributions to the meeting.

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


Ban Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Ali Babacan
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Turkey
Ankara

H.E. Mr. Ali Babacan
Title: FM
Drafter: KM
Proof read: MJ


Authorized
Date: 19 October 2007