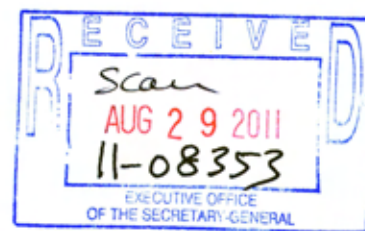


CENTRAL



DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
WIESS SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES



August 22, 2011

The Honorable Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
760 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017

ACTION *Mr. Pascor*  
COPY *UNHCR/L.O.*

[sgcentral@un.org](mailto:sgcentral@un.org)

Dear Mr. Secretary General:

The Iraqi Government has set a deadline to close down Camp Ashraf by the end of the year. The residents of Camp Ashraf are not welcome in Iraq and must be transferred to other countries if they are to have any reasonable future. Some residents of the camp may be guilty of crimes against citizens of Iraq and Iran, but with high probability many residents of the camp are not guilty of any crime. As the loathing of MEK by the governments of Iraq and Iran is intense, it seems likely that the innocent will share the dismal fate of the guilty if they are not relocated elsewhere.

In view of the Iraqi deadline of the end of this year, I urge the UNHCR to give a very high priority to the Ashraf residents by establishing a team at the camp to interview the residents in order to determine who is eligible for refugee status and facilitate the transfer of these refugees to other countries. The presence of such a team should prevent the repetition of events such as the April 8th attack on the camp.

Respectfully,

Kenneth S. Pitzer Schlumberger Professor of Natural Sciences Emeritus  
Nobel Laureate in Chemistry 1997

cc:

- Mr. António Guterres , UN High Commissioner for Refugees

[guterres@unhcr.org](mailto:guterres@unhcr.org)

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