

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

5 April 2007

Excellency,

I would like to express my appreciation once again for the warm hospitality extended to me when, as the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea, I visited your country last July during the Summit conference of the African Union in Banjul. Since becoming Secretary-General of the United Nations last January, I have had the opportunity to reiterate my gratitude for the Gambia's support and cooperation to your former Permanent Representative, Ambassador Crispin Grey-Johnson.

Given the excellent and harmonious working relationship that has long existed between the Gambia and the United Nations, it was, therefore, with great surprise that I received your request to withdraw with immediate effect the United Nations Resident Coordinator, Ms. Fadzai Gwaradzimba, from the Gambia. I regret any misunderstanding between my representatives and Member States, as our goal is to continue to work collaboratively with the countries we serve. In this particular case, I believe that the circumstances leading to your Government's decision could have been resolved through dialogue. Having reviewed Ms. Gwaradzimba's statement, I also feel that the reaction of the Government of the Gambia was not commensurate with her alleged offence.

Ms. Gwaradzimba was a strong advocate for the Gambia and has worked diligently, and in a dedicated manner, to promote the shared objectives and priorities of your Government and the United Nations. As we seek to move beyond this highly regrettable incident, and the temporary interruptions that it has caused with respect to our work on the ground, I hope that the Government of the Gambia will speedily restore a strong and productive working relationship with the United Nations so that together we can continue to work to serve the interest of peace and development in the Gambia.

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



Ban Ki-moon

His Excellency
Al Hadji Yahya A.J.J. Jammeh
President of the Republic of the Gambia
Banjul

27-03243

27-04625

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

5 April 2007

Dear Mr. Jarra,

I would be grateful if you could forward the enclosed letter to His Excellency Al Hadji Yahya A.J.J. Jammeh, President of the Republic of the Gambia.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

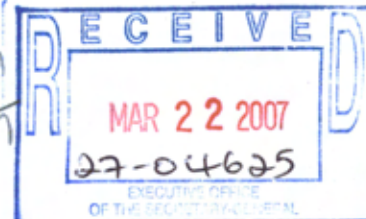
Yours sincerely,


Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

Mr. Habib Tamasa Baba Jarra
Charge d'Affairs
Permanent Mission of the Gambia
to the United Nations
New York

Gambia

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Note to Mr. Nambiar

**DRAFT TEXT OF A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO
PRESIDENT JAMMEH**

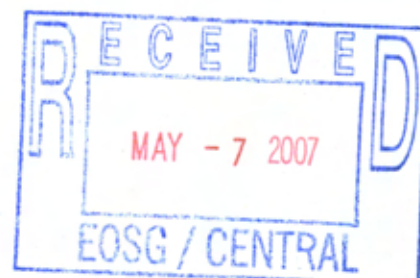
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(#27-03243)

1. In a note verbale dated 21 February 2007 addressed to the Secretary-General (copy attached), the Government of Gambia requested the United Nations to withdraw the UN Resident Coordinator UNDP Resident Representative, Ms. Fadza Gwaradzimba, from Gambia, by 26 February 2007.
2. While the note verbale did not indicate the precise reasons that led to the Government's decision, we understand that the authorities were displeased with comments she recently made to the British media regarding the President's assertion that he can cure HIV/AIDS through traditional and herbal treatment. You will recall that, in a note to you dated 23 February 2007, my predecessor recommended that the Deputy-Secretary-General consider calling President Jammeh to urge him to rescind his decision and resolve this misunderstanding through discussions. In response to DPA's recommendation, made in consultation with UNDP, the Deputy-Secretary-General's attempt to reach the President was unsuccessful. Subsequently, the Resident Coordinator reported to UNDP Headquarters in New York on 26 February.
3. Given the gravity of this situation, we would recommend that the Secretary-General write to President Jammeh in response to the Government's note verbale. To that end, I attach a draft letter, which was prepared in consultation with UNDP. I would be grateful if you would seek the Secretary-General's approval and signature at his earliest convenience. A transmittal letter from you to the Permanent Representative of the Gambia is also attached.

B. Lynn Pascoe
21 March 2007

cc: The Deputy Secretary-General
Mr. Dervis
Mr. Kalomoh
Mr. Houngho
Mr. Buo

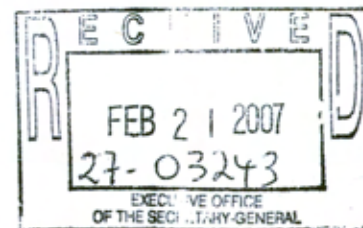


Asplina

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA
Department of State for Foreign Affairs
No. 4 Marina Parade
Banjul, The Gambia

ACTION DSG

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Mr. Davis (for)
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MEA/C/(163)

URGENT AND CONFIDENTIAL

The Department of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia presents its compliments to the Secretary General of The United Nations and has the honour to inform the latter that the Republic of The Gambia is committed to ensuring that the excellent and harmonious relations which have always existed between the United Nations and the Government of The Republic of The Gambia are not only maintained but are further consolidated.

In this regard the Department of State for Foreign Affairs wishes to place on record the cooperation and support that Coordinators of the UN System in The Gambia have always enjoyed in the execution, of their official assignments.

Regrettably however, the Government of the Republic of The Gambia has found the current UNDP Resident Representative and Coordinator of the UN System in The Gambia, Mrs. Fadza Gwarazimba, severely wanting in this respect.

In order to safeguard the good reputation and image of the UN in The Gambia, the Government of The Gambia would appreciate it if, as a matter of urgency, appropriate steps were taken to ensure the withdrawal, by Monday 26th February 2007, of Mrs. Gwarazimba from The Gambia.

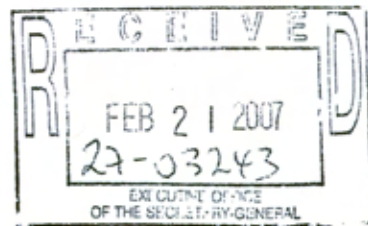
Whilst reiterating the firm desire and commitment of the Gambian authorities to working in harmony and mutual respect with the UN System in the interest of mankind, the Department of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of The Gambia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the UN Secretary General the assurances of its highest consideration.

Banjul, 21st February 2007



**Secretary General
One United Nation Plaza
New York, NY 10017
United States of America**

cc. Secretary General, Office of The President



**THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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GPM/UN1 /(MDK)
No.0138-2007

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of The Gambia to the United Nations presents its compliments to Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit the attached note verbale Ref. MEA/C/(163) of 21st February 2007 from the Department of State for Foreign Affairs, The Gambia.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of The Gambia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

H. E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
To the United Nations
New York

20th February 2007