



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

12 May 2011

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your words of support in your joint letter with the other Permanent Representatives of the Nordic Member States dated 21 April 2011 regarding the public release of the advisory report of the Panel of Experts on Accountability with respect to the final stages of the decades-long armed conflict in Sri Lanka. As I have previously mentioned, the decision to release the report was made as a matter of transparency and in the broader public interest in light of the concerns pertaining to alleged violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

It will be important for Member States to closely read the report. We have shared the report with the Government of Sri Lanka and hope to receive a constructive response from Colombo soon. As you may recall, the commitment to address the issue of accountability in Sri Lanka was made by President Mahinda Rajapaksa in a joint statement issued during my visit immediately after the end of the conflict in May 2009. Sri Lanka must deal with this issue in a serious and credible manner as accountability is an essential step towards lasting peace and stability in the country. I hope that the advisory report will be utilized effectively to that end.

The Panel's main recommendation is that Sri Lanka should carry out a proper investigation of the credible allegations on violations of international law that occurred during the closing stages of the conflict and institute an effective accountability process. In addition, the Panel recommends the establishment of an independent international mechanism to, inter alia, conduct

His Excellency  
Mr. Carsten Staur  
Permanent Representative of Denmark  
to the United Nations  
New York



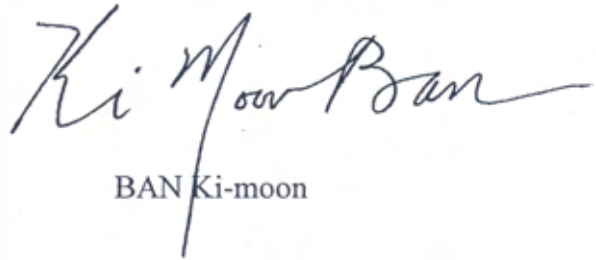
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11-03735 / 11-03571

investigations into the alleged violations. This will require host country consent or a decision from Member States through an appropriate intergovernmental body. The continued efforts of the international community to help Sri Lanka heal the wounds of a brutal conflict will be critical.

I have addressed a similar letter to the Permanent Representatives of the other Nordic States.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ki" and last name "Ban" being more prominent than the middle name "Moon".

BAN Ki-moon



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Dear Mr. Taalas,

I would like to thank you for your words of support in your joint letter with the other Permanent Representatives of the Nordic Member States dated 21 April 2011 regarding the public release of the advisory report of the Panel of Experts on Accountability with respect to the final stages of the decades-long armed conflict in Sri Lanka. As I have previously mentioned, the decision to release the report was made as a matter of transparency and in the broader public interest in light of the concerns pertaining to alleged violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

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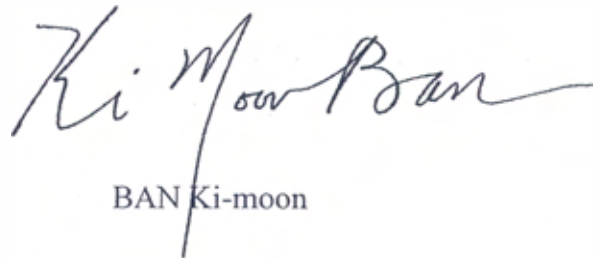
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Mr. Janne Taalas  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.  
Permanent Mission of Finland  
to the United Nations  
New York

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ban Ki-moon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ban" being more prominent and the last name "Ki-moon" written in a more connected, flowing style.

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Mr. Gunnar Pálsson  
Permanent Representative of Iceland  
to the United Nations  
New York

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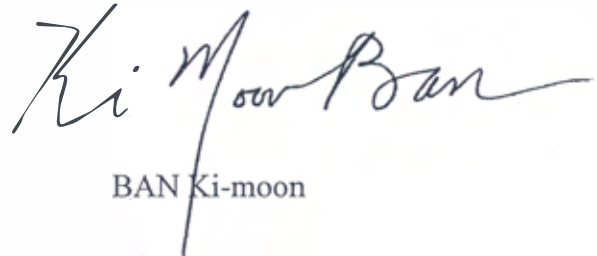
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His Excellency  
Mr. Morten Wetland  
Permanent Representative of Norway  
to the United Nations  
New York

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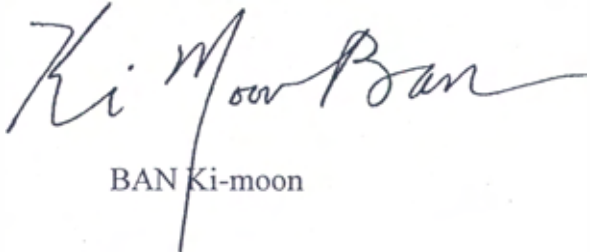
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His Excellency  
Mr. Mårten Grunditz  
Permanent Representative of Sweden  
to the United Nations  
New York

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



BAN Ki-moon

Copie

**5 LETTERS FOR SG'S SIGNATURE  
REGARDING THE REPORT OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS  
ON ACCOUNTABILITY IN SRI LANKA**

1. His Excellency Mr. Carsten Staur, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations;
2. Mr. Janne Taalas, Charge d'Affaires a.i., Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations;
3. His Excellency Mr. Gunnar Pálsson, Permanent Representative of Iceland to the United Nations;
4. His Excellency Mr. Morten Wetland, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations; and
5. His Excellency Mr. Mårten Grunditz, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations.

Drafter: DPA  
Proofread by: KM/SH  
Approved by:  
Date: 11 May 2011



11-03735

United Nations



Nations Unies

Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

To: Mr. KIM,

Please find attached for your approval and SG's signature, 5 letters addressed to the PRs of the Nordic States regarding the report of the Panel of Experts on Accountability in Sri Lanka.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Nicholas Haysom', is written over a horizontal line.

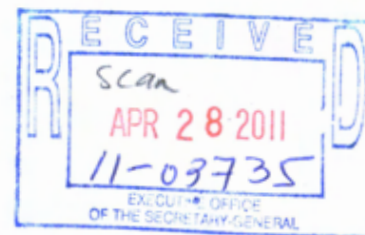
Nicholas Haysom  
11 May 2011

Cc: VN

11-03735

email  
ACTION NH  
COPY VN

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Note to Mr. Nambiar

SRI LANKA

Please find attached, for the Secretary-General's signature, reply letters to the Permanent Representatives of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Charge d'Affaires a.i. of Finland regarding the report from the Advisory panel on Sri Lanka.

Ref Log #  
11-03571

  
B. Lynn Pascoe  
28 April 2011



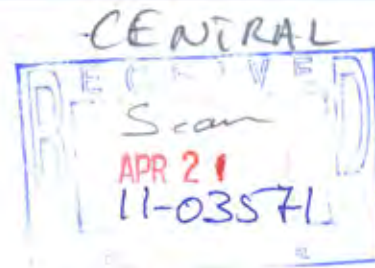
Permanent Mission of  
Iceland to the United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION OF NORWAY  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION OF SWEDEN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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

Mr. Pascoe (pt)  
UN  
NH

New York, 21 April 2011

Dear Secretary General,

The Nordic countries; Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden welcomes the finalisation of the report from the Advisory panel on Sri Lanka. We commend the Secretary Generals personal commitment in unveiling the truth about the final stages of the war. Many people were killed or disappeared as a result of the conflict, and there have been accusations from both sides on violations of human rights. Future reconciliation depends on transparency and independent fact finding. We express our appreciation that the Secretary General has decided to publish the report this week, hopefully at the earliest opportunity.

With our best wishes and warmest regards,

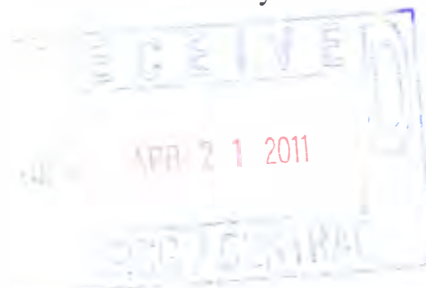
Ambassador Carsten Staur  
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