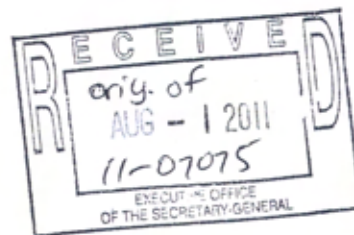


Control

YAC/Sha
DSG
JN



To:

The Secretary-General of the United Nations,
H.E. BAN Ki-moon

13/07/11

Excellency,

First of all, it is my distinct honor and profound privilege to extend to you my congratulations on your re-election as Secretary-General of the United Nations. Your re-election did not come as a surprise to me, for under your guidance in the past 5 years, the UN was able to achieve many of its intended goals. Furthermore, the image of the United Nations as a prestigious body has improved, which benefits all member States. With political will and determination we will be able to face the future in a positive way. Rest assured, that you have my full support in the coming years.

I also take the opportunity to acknowledge receipt of your invitation to attend "the High Level Meeting on Youth" on July 25 and 26 in New York. It is with deep regret that I have to decline this gracious invitation, due to matters of national high importance.

However, I have designated the Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Suriname as my "Special Envoy", together with a delegation, to partake in this High Level meeting on Youth. I would like to underscore my full support for your views on the policies addressing the current situation of the youth, which has profound implications for economic and social development, as well as political stability.

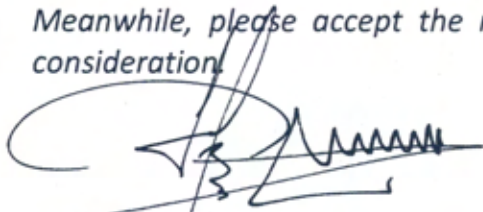
Within CARICOM, I am the Head of State with responsibility for youth, sports and gender issues and I intend to address these to the best of my ability. In the Policy Statement 2010-2015, which was pronounced in the National Assembly of my country on October 01, 2010, high priority is given to youth affairs and I have recently sworn in a Committee to formulate and monitor youth policy, which reports directly to me.

I strongly believe in full political participation of the youth, for this contributes to a strong political system. Our National Youth Parliament, whose new members I recently also installed, is a good example of this.

I wish you and all those attending the High Level Meeting on Youth a fruitful and positive meeting. May this meeting indeed be one of effective dialogue and good mutual understanding, and may this theme continue to be a source of inspiration and motivation for peace and harmony within the International Community.

Your Excellency, I hope to meet you in New York when I address the 66th General Assembly this fall.

Meanwhile, please accept the renewed assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.



Desiré Delano Bouterse
President of the Republic of Suriname

Paramaribo, 13 July 2011





PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
866 United Nations Plaza 320. New York 10017
Tel. 212-826-0660 Fax. 212-980-7029 E-mail: Suriname@un.int

No: 186 / 11

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Suriname to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations and with reference to its note no.186/11 dated July 20th, 2011 has the honor to forward hereby the original letter of His Excellency Mr. Desiré Delano Bouterse, President of the Republic of Suriname, addressed to His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki- moon, Secretary General of the United Nations.

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

New York, July 27th, 2011.



The Office of the Secretary General
of the United Nations
New York