

+12129861838



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA TO THE UNITED NATIONS



*Thursday, 17 July
2008, 4:00 p.m.*

Tel: (212) 986-7040
Fax: (212) 986-1838
E-Mail: SLPMNY@aol.com

630 THIRD AVENUE (20TH FLOOR)
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

No.PR/PS/20

17th June, 2008

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
Room S-3800, United Nations Secretariat
New York

Excellency,

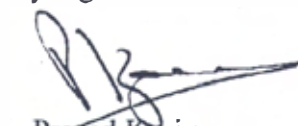
I have the honour to convey to you that I will be completing my tour of duty as Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York in July 2008, and will thus be leaving New York on 20th July to return to my substantive position at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Colombo.

Representing Sri Lanka at the United Nations since the assumption of office as Permanent Representative on 4th April 2005, has been a rewarding experience. The opportunity of contributing towards efforts by the United Nations on several issues of interest to the international community during my tenure was equally gratifying. I also had the pleasure, during my term, of being in the forefront of efforts to ensure that an Asian is selected as the new UN Secretary-General.

I would appreciate an opportunity to pay a farewell call on you at a mutually convenient time prior to my departure from New York. As I will be undertaking an official field visit on behalf of the UN to the Middle East from 22nd to 6th July in my capacity as the Chairperson of the Special Committee to Investigate Israel Practices affecting the Human Rights of the Palestine People and Other Arabs of Occupied Territories, I shall be grateful if an appointment to call on you is granted on any day convenient to you between 7th and 18th July 2008 (both days inclusive).

I look forward to meet you before my departure from New York on 20th July, and to also continue to support your efforts as Secretary-General and the work of the United Nations in the service of my country and the international community.

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


Prasad Kariyawasam
Ambassador

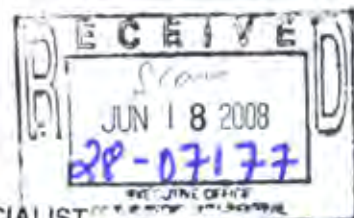
Cc: Mr. Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka
to the United Nations

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to the United Nations

Cc: Mr. Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

RECEIVED TIME JUN. 18. 1:25PM

Confirmed with
Janila on 19 June 2008.
Tori

PRASAD KARIYAWASAM

Prasad Kariyawasam joined the Sri Lanka Foreign Service in 1981 and has held diplomatic assignments in Geneva (1983-1987, 2001-2004), Riyadh (1989-1992), Washington (1995-1998), New Delhi (1998-2001) and New York (2005-2008). In New Delhi he served as Deputy High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in India, holding the rank of an Ambassador. In Geneva, he served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations, while also holding the positions of Consul General of Sri Lanka to Switzerland, Personal Representative of the Head of State of Sri Lanka to the G-15 and concurrently accredited Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the Holy See in the Vatican. In New York, he served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations and was concurrently accredited as the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Jamaica and The Bahamas, as well as Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Chile and Colombia.

At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he had assignments in the Divisions of United Nations and Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), Political Affairs, Administration, Economic Affairs and as the Special Assistant to the Foreign Secretary. He also held the post of Director of the South Asia Division and was the Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the capacity of Director of Publicity. Prior to his assignment to New York as Ambassador he held the position of Director General of the Economic Affairs Division and served as an Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He has represented Sri Lanka at several international, UN and Non-Aligned Movement Conferences on various issues in Geneva, New York, Vienna and in several other venues in Asia, Europe and America.

Mr. Kariyawasam was the Alternate Representative of Sri Lanka at the 53rd, 54th and 55th Sessions of the UN Commission for Human Rights (CHR) held in Geneva and led the observer delegation of Sri Lanka to the 57th and 58th Sessions of CHR. At the 59th Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Mr. Kariyawasam was elected as a Vice-Chairperson and served in the Expanded Bureau of the 59th CHR. At the World Conference against Racism held in Durban in 2001, he was elected as the Vice-Chair of the main Committee. In 2003, he was elected to the UN Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. At the first inaugural session of the Committee, he was selected as its Chairperson, the post of which he held until 2008. Mr. Kariyawasam was also elected as the Chair of the 2004 sessions of the Chairpersons of Human Rights Treaty Bodies and Inter-Committee Meetings. He also served as the Chairperson of the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israel Practices Affecting the Human Rights of

the Palestine People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories from 2005 to 2008.

He followed the UN Disarmament Fellowship Programme and was a delegate of Sri Lanka at the UN Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from 1984 to 1987 and led the Sri Lanka delegation from 2001 to 2003. Mr. Kariyawasam was also appointed as the Special Co-ordinator for improved and effective functioning of the Conference on Disarmament at its Fall Session of 2001 and for the year 2002. He was a member of the United Nations Panel of Experts on Small Arms, which produced a report on the subject to the UN General Assembly in 1997. He also served in the UN Group of Governmental Experts on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, which reported to the 2004 UNGA. In July 2006 he presided over the UN Conference to Review Progress in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects held in New York. He served as a Vice-Chairperson of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for the year 2006 and was elected as a Vice President of the 62nd General Assembly of the United Nations for the years 2007/2008.

Mr. Kariyawasam was a member of the Sri Lanka delegation to the 50th and 60th anniversary Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and to the 50th anniversary Sessions of the annual IMF/World Bank meetings. He was a delegate to the Legal Committee of the UNGA in 1997 which finalised the UN Convention for Suppression of Terrorist Bombings. He was Sri Lanka's Representative to the First Committee of the UNGA and a delegate to the UN Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism. Mr. Kariyawasam was elected as the President of the Council of the International Organization for Migration for the years 2001-2002 at its 50th anniversary session. He chaired the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) Committee of Participants in UNCTAD and chaired the UNCTAD Expert Group on Market Access Issues in Mode 4 (Movement of Natural Persons to Supply Services) in 2002 – 2003. In the year 2002 he participated at the annual session of the World Economic Forum held in Davos.

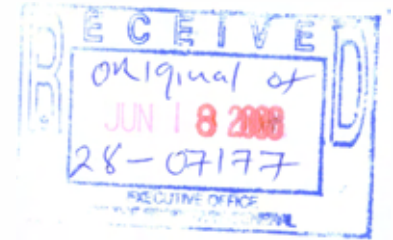
Mr. Kariyawasam was born on 21st March 1954. He is married and has a daughter and a son.



Sri Lanka

General

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