

4 June 2009

Excellency,

I recall warmly our recent meeting in Moscow, and I was gratified then by your commitment to the work of the United Nations and by your expression of support for increased Russian engagement in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. In this regard, I wish to express my deep appreciation for the valuable contribution made by the Russian Federation to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. I am grateful for the offer of Russian assets for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), which would greatly contribute to the logistic capacity necessary for the Mission to implement its mandate. Similarly, the Russian helicopter unit operating in the Sudan remains critical in enabling the United Nations Mission in Sudan to implement its core mandated activities.

In the Republic of Chad, the Russian Federation has graciously pledged helicopters, engineering assets and a hospital to support MINURCAT operations. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Letter of Assist (LOA) on the helicopters are in the process of being finalized. However, due to the situation on the ground, and the approaching rainy season, there is an immediate need for air assets since the ability to move on the ground remains extremely limited. Accordingly, I would be extremely grateful if the approval for these helicopters to fly could be granted pending the finalization of the MOU and LOA. In addition, the United Nations has asked the Russian Federation to consider contributing a more enhanced engineering capacity than the one currently being offered. I sincerely hope that our request would be given favorable consideration. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for the Level II Hospital pledged for MINURCAT, and would request that this facility becomes operational by February 2010.

His Excellency
Mr. Dmitry A. Medvedev
President of the Russian Federation
Moscow

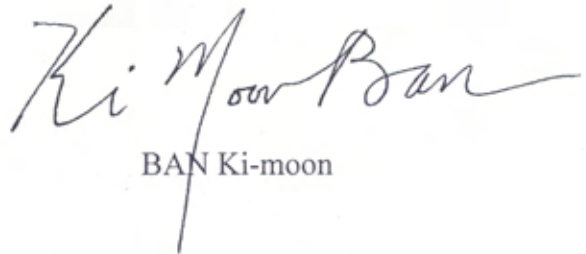
President Russian Fed.
Drafter: DPKO
Proofread by: SHL/MZ
Approved by:

Date: 4 June 2009

On a separate note, the helicopter unit in Juba (Southern Sudan) continues to perform its mandated tasks commendably. During the rainy season, air assets very frequently become the only mode of transport to sustain United Nations presence and undertake lifesaving operations. Due to intensive operations, these helicopters are now in need of significant refurbishing to maintain their air worthiness. I would be extremely grateful if the requisite resources needed for the refurbishment of these helicopters could be approved as a matter of priority.

The United Nations remains grateful for the support extended by the Russian Federation to the work of the United Nations and I look forward to meeting you or your representative during the next General Assembly session.

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

A handwritten signature in dark 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