



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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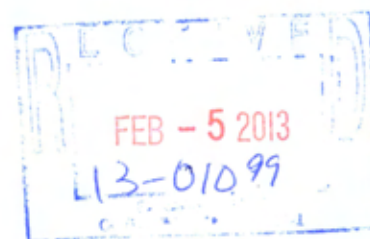
Permanent Mission of Switzerland
to the United Nations

For Info
DSG
CdC
AG

To the President of the Security Council
for the month of February 2013
H.E. Mr. Kim Sook
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Korea to the United Nations
New York

Sent by fax: 1 917 367 0406

New York, 5 February 2013



Mr. President,

Ahead of the 12 February open debate on the Protection of Civilians, I am writing to you in my capacity as chair of the Group of Friends on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, which is comprised of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Norway, Portugal, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

Ensuring the protection of civilians in armed conflict is a challenging task which requires our constant attention. Unfortunately, the core challenges identified in the last three reports of the Secretary-General have not been addressed adequately. The way forward set out in S/RES/1894 (2009) therefore remains a matter of priority. In my view, a comprehensive humanitarian perspective is an essential prerequisite for any meaningful discussion on the protection of civilians. This is why a specific briefing by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) is of utmost importance. At this stage, however, it seems that the ERC, Ms. Valerie Amos, does not figure on the list of briefers for the 12 February debate. ✓

I would therefore kindly ask you also to **extend an invitation to her directly in her capacity as Emergency Relief Coordinator**. The ERC or his/her representative has participated in every debate since 1999, a practice that the Council explicitly welcomed in its latest resolution on the subject (S/RES/1894 (2009)). ✓

I would be grateful if you could circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Gürber
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

cc: Ms. Susana Malcorra, Chef de Cabinet
Ms. Valerie Amos, USG for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

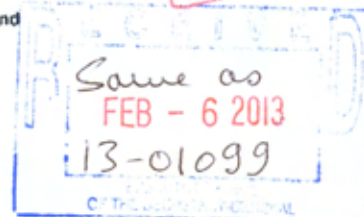
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with
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As chair of the Group of Friends, I would therefore kindly ask you to help facilitate the participation of Ms. Amos in the debate of 12 February 2013, thus continuing the practice of joint briefings to Security Council members by the Secretary-General and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on behalf of the United Nations' humanitarian community.

I would be grateful if you could circulate this letter among members of the Security Council.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Gürber
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

cc: Ms. Susana Malcorra, Chef de Cabinet
Ms. Valerie Amos, USG for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator



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