



Response to Invitation to the Secretary-General : - invitation to propose to present the Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution Global Peace Award for 2013

Daw Yi Mon Aung to: Clarencejen10

26/11/2013 06:22 PM

Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada, Mary Sack, Jackilyn Punsal, Amy Kyaw, Rommel Maranan

From: Daw Yi Mon Aung/NY/UNO
To: Clarencejen10@yahoo.com,
Cc: Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Mary Sack/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Jackilyn Punsal/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Amy Kyaw/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Rommel Maranan/NY/UNO@UNHQ

Dear Sir/Madam ,

Please find attached scan of formal communication from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to Her Royal Majesty Queen Akasoba Duke-Abiola, Chair of Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, The Akasoba of Kalabari, regarding the above-mentioned subject.

Kindly note that the original has been sent via mail .

Please confirm receipt of this message and its attachment.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Daw Yi Mon Aung
Scheduling Office of the Secretary-General
Executive Office of the Secretary-General
United Nations
Room S-3849
(212) 963-1327
aungd@un.org



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#13-09247

EXR/07/001



UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

25 November 2013

Your Majesty,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 20 September 2013, in which you propose to present the Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution Global Peace Award for 2013 to the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General appreciates your kind offer in **recognition** of his achievements. Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that, in keeping with United Nations rules and practices, he will be unable to accept the award. Nevertheless, I wish thank you for thinking of the Secretary-General and the United Nations in this way.

Allow me to take this opportunity to convey his best wishes for success to your Centre.

Please accept, Your Majesty, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Susana Malcorra
Chef de Cabinet

Her Royal Majesty
Queen Akasoba Duke-Abiola
The Akasoba of Kalabari
Chair
Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution
London

13-09247

EXR107/001



Fw: For Advice -- Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution Global Peace Award to the SG

Antigoni Axenidou to: Alexandra Barahona Posada

01/11/2013 03:26 PM

Markus Pallek, Katrin Hett, Bertrand Njanja-Fassu, Stephanie Cartier, Phyllis

Cc: Hwang, Cathy Capone, Sanghwa Lee, Josiane Ambiehl, Sebastien Lawson,

Brenda Vongova

Dear Alexandra,

I refer to your e-mail dated 25 October 2013, requesting DPA's and OLA's advice on whether there would be any legal impediment with regard to the Secretary-General accepting the "Global Peace Award" (the "Award") from the "Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution" (the "Centre"). The invitation letter from the Chair of the Centre, Her Royal Majesty Queen Akasoba Duke-Abiola, "The Akasoba of Kalabari," to the Secretary-General, dated 20 September 2013, states that the Award would be bestowed upon him in recognition of his efforts towards global peace and conflict resolution, and of his "tireless fight against injustice, [his] sense of personal decency, good governance and love for humanity."

We have reviewed the invitation and, in light of the scant information provided in it, we have sought additional information regarding Queen Akasoba of Kalabari, the Centre and the Award. Unfortunately, our internet search has not yielded sufficient information to enable us to make a proper legal assessment of this invitation. Based on our research, we understand that the "Kalabari Kingdom" is a traditional state or tribe in Nigeria, but we have not been able to ascertain the status of the tribe or that of Queen Akasoba in Nigeria. Also, with regard to the Centre, while the invitation letter indicates that it is based in London, U.K., we have found no website outlining its structure, composition and purposes. Furthermore, we found no information regarding the selection process for the Award or previous recipients.

Therefore, given the paucity of publicly available information on Queen Akasoba, the Centre or the Award, we are unable to come to a definitive conclusion on whether there would be any legal impediment to the Secretary-General's acceptance of the Award at the present time. We have consulted with DPA at the working level, and we understand that our colleagues there are seeking to ascertain the necessary factual information. If we are provided with the necessary background information, we will be able to revert to you following our review of the same.

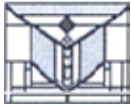
With best regards,
Antigoni

Antigoni Axenidou
Director
General Legal Division
Office of Legal Affairs
Room S-3675
Telephone: (212) 963-5348
Email: axenidou@un.org

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From: Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO



**Fw: For Advice -- Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution
Global Peace Award to the SG**

Brenda Vongova to: Alexandra Barahona Posada

11/11/2013 01:00 PM

Cc: Sanghwa Lee, Josiane Ambiehl, Sebastien Lawson, Jackilyn Punsal,
Roselyn Akombe, Bertrand Njanja-Fassu, Katrin Hett

Dear Alexandra,

DPA, in consultation with UNOWA, has reviewed the request received by the Secretary General from the Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ACPCR), and did not find compelling information that should lead the Secretary-General to feel obliged to respond favourably to this invitation. Publicly available information about this organization, primarily from secondary sources (media), is limited. Media reports refer to the organisation as a NGO. Articles about Queen Akasoba Duke-Abiola, the Chair of ACPCR and sender of the letter, focus mainly on events to be organised by her or the ACPCR with various dignitaries; however, there are no media reports from such meetings indicating that they have actually taken place. Moreover, the organisation has no website of its own listed on the letter, or available through online search. UNOWA tried to contact the Centre in Nigeria to no avail.

With best regards,
Brenda



Ms **Brenda VONGOVA**
Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs
Work: +1 917 367 0292 E-mail: vongova@un.org

*(Open date)
<Respect>
discussed w/ OBP -
use - standardize
for against UN Rule*

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----- Forwarded by Brenda Vongova/NY/UNO on 11/11/2013 12:51 PM -----

From: Antigoni Axenidou/NY/UNO
To: Alexandra Barahona Posada/NY/UNO@UNHQ,
Cc: Markus Pallek/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Katrin Hett/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Bertrand Njanja-Fassu/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Stephanie Cartier/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Phyllis Hwang/NY/UNO, Cathy Capone/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Sanghwa Lee/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Josiane Ambiehl/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Sebastien Lawson/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Brenda Vongova/NY/UNO@UNHQ
Date: 01/11/2013 03:26 PM
Subject: Fw: For Advice -- Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution Global Peace Award to the SG

Dear Alexandra,

I refer to your e-mail dated 25 October 2013, requesting DPA's and OLA's advice on whether there would be any legal impediment with regard to the Secretary-General accepting the "Global Peace Award" (the "Award") from the "Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution" (the "Centre"). The invitation letter from the Chair of the Centre, Her Royal Majesty Queen Akasoba Duke-Abiola, "The Akasoba of Kalabari," to the Secretary-General, dated 20 September 2013, states that the Award would be bestowed upon him in recognition of his efforts towards global peace and conflict resolution, and of his "tireless fight against injustice, [his] sense of personal decency, good governance and love for humanity."

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**For Advice -- Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution
Global Peace Award to the SG**

Alexandra Barahona Posada to: Katrin Hett, Bertrand
Njanja-Fassu, Markus Pallek

25/10/2013 05:40 PM

CC: Brenda Vongova, "Josiane", Sanghwa Lee, Jackilyn Punsal,
Sebastien Lawson, DPA-OUSG-TPs

Dear DPA Colleagues and Markus,

EOSG would like to receive the views of DPA (from a policy perspective) - OLA (from a legal perspective) regarding this invitation/award request as well as the Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict organization associated with this event. Invitation attached for ease of reference.

We look forward to receiving your advice so we can proceed to respond formally to requester.

Many thanks in advance,

Alex



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Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution



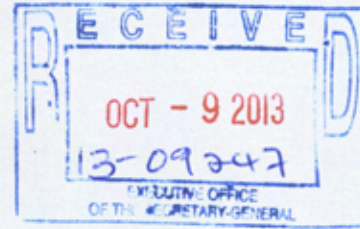
Towards Global Peace & Excellence

Clarencejen10@yahoo.com

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SA

His Excellency Mr Ban Ki Moon
United Nations Secretary-General
UN Headquarters
First Avenue at 46th Street
New York, NY 10017 USA



816 Falcom Wharf
34 Lombard Road
London, SW11 3RF

ABP: pls consult w/ OLA + DPA

20th September 2013

Your Excellency,

GLOBAL PEACE AWARD

It is a distinct honor and pleasure on behalf of the board of the Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ACPCR), to present this year's **Queen Akasoba Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution Global Peace Award** to you.

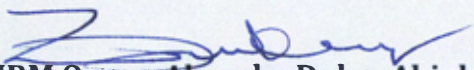
This is especially in recognition of your efforts towards Global Peace and Conflict Resolution.

We further commend your tireless fight against injustice, your sense of personal decency, good governance and love for humanity.

We look forward to working with you in the nearest future.

Accept the assurances of the highest regards of the ACPCR.
Congratulations!

Sincerely,


HRM Queen Akasoba Duke-Abiola
The Akasoba of Kalabari
Chair, ACPCR

ACPCR

Centre for Peace and
Global Excellence

Clarencejen10@yahoo.com

EXR/07/001