



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

2 February 2009

Dear Brigadier-General Godio,

Upon my return to New York, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the Italian Battalion at position 1-31 for the warm welcome I received and arrangements that were in place during my visit along the Blue Line on 17 January.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the members of your Battalion at this position, I was able to gain further insight into the situation on the ground, as well as the challenges it presents. May I also ask that my deep appreciation be conveyed to the Chinese officers who presented me with demining equipment along the Blue Line.

I was particularly proud to observe the high standard of professionalism and dedication shown by all UNIFIL troops I encountered during my visit, as evinced in particular during the presentation I received at position 1-31. Let me finally extend to you and all members of ITALBATT my full support, together with my best wishes for every success in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban", is written over a vertical line that extends from the signature down to the printed name.

BAN Ki-moon

Brigadier-General Flaviano Godio
Sector West Commander
United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)
Naqoura