



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

1 February 2007

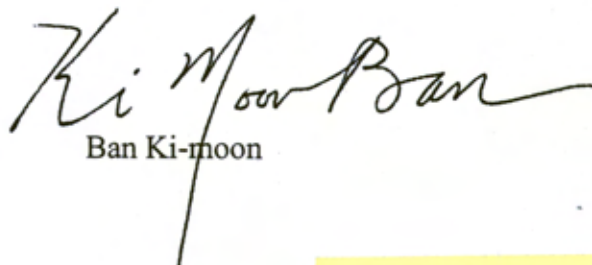
Dear Mr. President,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to me, dated 26 January 2007, from the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré, regarding the situation in Somalia. At the request of Mr. Konaré, I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

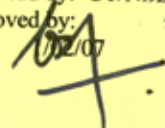
I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that, in response to Chairperson Konaré's request for the United Nations to dispatch representatives, including Department of Peacekeeping Operations staff, to assist in the process of supporting the development of a detailed operational plan for the African Union Mission in Somalia, I have asked a small team of United Nations experts to travel to Addis Ababa next week, in order to jointly assess the planning support and other requirements of the African Union.

In the meantime, it is hoped that the political process in Somalia will make sufficient progress to allow for the deployment of a peacekeeping operation, accepted by a wide range of Somali actors. In the absence of these conditions, the planning would have to focus on a peace enforcement operation which, as Members of the Council are aware, would require qualitatively different capabilities and assets, under the command of a militarily strong lead nation.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Ban Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Peter Burian
President of the Security Council
New York

SG letter to SC President
Drafter: DPA
Proofread by: CT/NSD
Approved by: 
Date: 02/07