

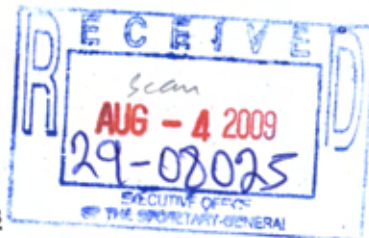
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MO-action 4/8/09 - follow up w/ DPI
cc: PO
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FM

**NOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
(through Mr. Nambiar)**

Recent global public opinion poll on the United Nations



I would like to share with you highlights of recent public opinion polling by the Pew Research Center's Global Attitudes Project, which includes findings related to the United Nations. The survey shows that overall views of the United Nations have improved around the world. The poll was conducted in 24 countries and the Palestinian Territories from May 18 to June 16 2009, covering nearly 27,000 people.

The opinion of the UN is favorable in most areas of the world. Majorities in 17 of the countries surveyed are supportive of the Organization. In addition, pluralities in Japan, India and Argentina have a favorable view of the UN.

Improvements in the image of the UN were most pronounced in the United States. Currently, 61% of Americans say they have a favorable view of the UN, compared with 48% in 2007. In Britain and France there were also sizable increases in favorable views, from 58% in 2007 to 67% in the UK and a corresponding rise from 66% to 74% in France.

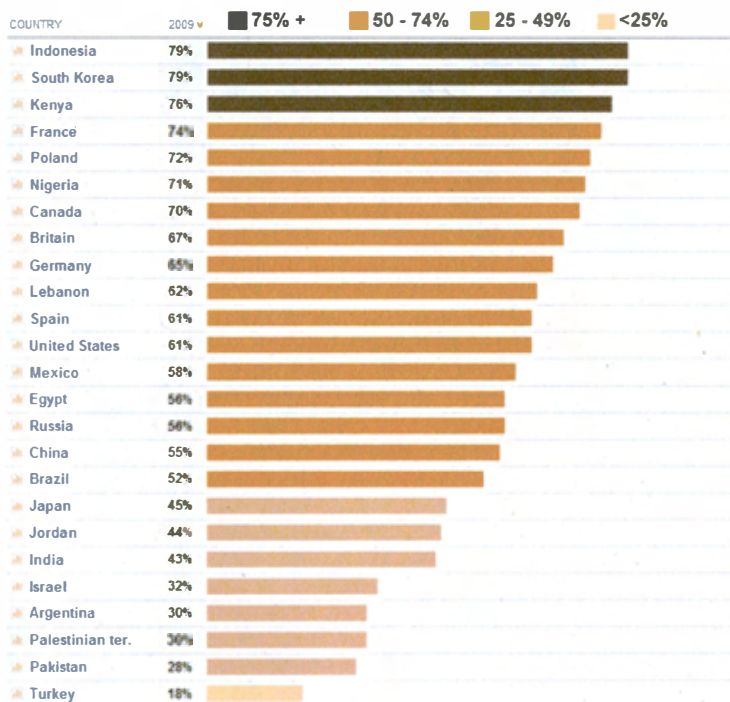
Overall, opinions of the UN in the Middle East remain largely unfavorable. However, the poll highlighted some positive improvements. A majority of Egyptians now have a favorable view of the Organization, a remarkable change from 2007 when 55% held unfavorable views. While the majority of Jordanians still have a negative image of the UN, those with favorable opinions increased from 32% in 2007 to 44% in 2009. Even the Palestinian Territories showed a modest improvement in the image of the Organization, with favorable views increasing to 30%, compared to 27% in 2007. Israel was the only country surveyed which showed a sizable increase in unfavorable opinions of the Organization. Negative views of the UN rose to 65% in 2009, compared to 58% in 2007.

In Pakistan, one of the countries with the lowest approval ratings of the UN, favorable opinions of the Organization increased by 11% to 28% in 2009, compared to 31% who have a negative image of the UN (down from 37% in 2007).

Opinion of the UN

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the UN?

Percent responding Favorable (2009)



Paula Refolo
Paula Refolo
Officer-in-Charge/DPI
3 August 2009

cc: The Deputy-Secretary-General
Mr. Kim
Mr. Orr
Mr. Haysom
Mr. Meyer
Ms. Montas

