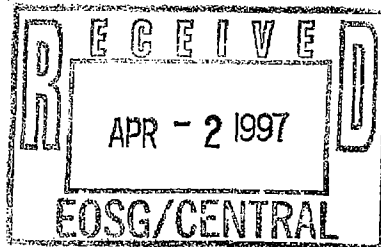




THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Jamaica  
CARICOM  
Invits/ref. "C"



3 April 1997

Excellency,

I should like to reiterate my thanks for your invitation to the opening session of the 18th meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) which was to be held in Montego Bay on 29 June.

As I had indicated in my letter of 18 March, I was planning to join you on that occasion, and had requested further details in order to discuss with Ambassador Durrant the specific arrangements in the context of my other commitments. I had in mind specifically, my participation in the Handover Ceremony in Hong Kong being jointly hosted by China and the United Kingdom on 30 June 1997.

I am now informed that the CARICOM inaugural session is being postponed to that very date of 30 June. I am sure you will understand that, with deep regret, it now will not be possible for me to join you at the CARICOM meeting as I have already indicated to the Chinese and British Governments that I intend to be in Hong Kong on 30 June. I shall, of course, be honoured to participate at the next meeting of CARICOM Heads of Government when this is scheduled.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Kofi A. Annan

His Excellency  
The Rt. Hon. Percival James Patterson, PC, QC, MP  
Prime Minister  
and Minister for Defence of Jamaica  
Kingston

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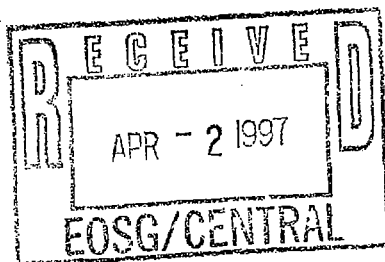
3 April 1997

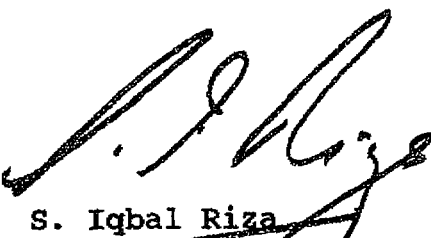
Excellency,

I should be grateful if you could kindly forward the attached letter from the Secretary-General to His Excellency The Rt.Hon. Percival James Patterson, Prime Minister and Minister for Defence of Jamaica.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



  
S. Iqbal Riza  
Chef de Cabinet

Her Excellency  
Miss M. Patricia Durrant, CD  
Permanent Representative of Jamaica  
to the United Nations  
New York