

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
CABLE ADDRESS - ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

14 March 2008

Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that the Secretary-General will shortly be announcing the appointment of Mr. Johnston Barkat as the new United Nations Ombudsman, at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

Mr. Barkat will head a single, integrated and decentralized Ombudsman's Office that will serve both the Secretariat and the funds and programmes. This strengthening of the capacity for the informal resolution of conflicts is one of the cornerstones of the new system of administration of justice at the United Nations, which was approved by the General Assembly in 2007.

In order to have a transparent and thorough selection process, the Secretary-General decided last year to draw upon the procedure that had been recommended by the Redesign Panel on the Administration of Justice at the United Nations and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in December 2007.

Consequently, the selection committee for the Ombudsman included a staff member as well as an external expert nominated by staff. In accordance with an agreement reached at the 28th session of the Staff-Management Coordination Committee (SMCC), which is the Secretariat-wide body for staff management relations, these nominations were communicated to the Secretary-General through the SMCC contact group on the administration of justice, after broad consultations among the staff unions. The selection

Her Excellency
Ms. Susan McLurg
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on
Administrative and Budgetary Questions
New York

28-02926

Ombudsman
GA-62nd
OPPBA/ACABG

committee was responsible for drawing up the short list of candidates, conducting the interviews and making recommendations. In making the final decision, the Secretary-General relied on the judgment and recommendations of the selection committee, and on exchanges with the principals of Funds and Programmes.

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


Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

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His Excellency
Mr. Hamidon Ali
Chairman of the Fifth Committee
New York

28-02925

committee was responsible for drawing up the short list of candidates, conducting the interviews and making recommendations. In making the final decision, the Secretary-General relied on the judgment and recommendations of the selection committee, and on exchanges with the principals of Funds and Programmes.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Nambiar', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

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His Excellency
Mr. Srgjan Kerim
President of the General Assembly
New York

28-02924

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



Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

TO:	Mr. Niquet (through Mr Kim)	
A:		
FROM:	Alexandre	
DE:		
Room No. - No de Bureau	Extension - Poste	Date
		14 March 08

FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER
FOR APPROVAL	✓	POUR APPROBATION
FOR SIGNATURE	✓	POUR SIGNATURE
FOR COMMENTS		POUR OBSERVATIONS
MAY WE DISCUSS?		POURRIONS - NOUS EN PARLER?
YOUR ATTENTION		VOTRE ATTENTION
AS DISCUSSED		COMME CONVENU
AS REQUESTED		SUITE A VOTRE DEMANDE
NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

Re: letters to PGA
 Ith Committee
 AeABQ

Re: Ombudsman

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RUSH