



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

DEC - 8 1997

Misc Orgs "I"
Italy

24 November 1997

Dear Mr. Mayor,

I should like to thank you for your letter of 30 October delivered by Professor Costa to my representative, Mr. Civili, on the occasion of the visit to the United Nations in New York of the Assisi International Centre for Peace Among Peoples. On the same occasion, I was pleased to receive the "Proclamation of the Millenium for Peace, the top priority for all peoples: defeating the scandals of hunger and war". My representative assured Professor Costa, and, through him, the people of Assisi, that the Proclamation will receive within the United Nations all the attention it deserves.

The visit of representatives of the Assisi International Centre to the United Nations, only a few days after the terrible earthquake that damaged so severely the cultural patrimony of the city and, indeed, of the whole world, reinforces the special role that Assisi plays as a centre for peace and spirituality. It shows that the effects of the earthquake have not diminished but have, in fact, strengthened the commitment of Assisi to the ideals of peace and international solidarity that the United Nations is endeavouring to promote.

The offer contained in your letter to place a portion of Palazzo Vallemiani at the disposal of activities of the United Nations in support of peace and the world's youth is yet another important testimony of this commitment. I have conveyed your offer to the United Nations entities concerned and I will revert to you in due course on your kind offer.

Yours sincerely,

Kofi A. Annan

The Honourable
Mr. Giorgio Bartolini
Mayor of Assisi
Assisi