



EDSG
Kuwait

Confidential

Note to the Secretary-General

Invitation to the Secretary-General to visit Kuwait

30/11/10

1. The Special Envoy of the Emir of Kuwait, H.E. Mr. Mohammad Abdullah Abulhasan, met me on 29 November to deliver a personal letter from the Emir of Kuwait [10-11060], inviting the Secretary-General to attend celebrations on 26 February 2010 marking the 20th anniversary of Kuwait's liberation from Iraq.
2. Mr. Abulhasan noted that Kuwait would celebrate the 50th anniversary of its independence on 25 February 2011, which would immediately be followed by the 20th anniversary of Kuwait's liberation on 26 February 2011. The Emir has invited the Secretary-General, as well as Heads of States and Governments of 34 countries, including the United States, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, U.A.E., Oman, Morocco, Canada, Syria, Jordan, Somalia, Djibouti and Egypt -- all of whom helped fight against Iraq as part of the coalition forces under SCR 687 (1991).
3. Mr. Abulhasan said that the liberation of Kuwait from Iraq was "a milestone" in the history of the United Nations, as it had been achieved under the mandate of SCR 678. Therefore, the Emir had invited the Secretary-General to visit Kuwait on the occasion of Kuwait's 20th anniversary of liberation, and not that of the 50th anniversary of Kuwait's independence. He noted that the Secretary-General's presence would have "a very strong value", both for Kuwait and the United Nations. He further emphasized that the invitation was "very special" and therefore the Emir wanted the letter to be delivered personally and not sent through the normal diplomatic channels.
4. Mr. Abulhasan indicated that out of 192 member states, Kuwait was the only state whose borders had been "guaranteed" by the United Nations through SCR 833 (1993), adding that never before in the history of the United Nations, had the Organization participated in the "delineation" -- as opposed to the "demarcation" -- of a country's borders.
5. I congratulated the Special Envoy on Kuwait's forthcoming 50th Anniversary of its Independence as well as the 20th Anniversary of its Liberation from Iraq. I also thanked Mr. Abulhasan for extending the invitation to the Secretary-General, on behalf of the Emir, to attend the 20th Anniversary of its Liberation from Iraq. I emphasized that the Secretary-General attached great importance to this event and that he would reply shortly regarding his participation. I assured Mr. Abulhasan that the Secretary-General was committed to ensuring Iraq's fulfillment of its Chapter VII obligations to Kuwait, especially reaffirming the borders pursuant to SCR 833 (1993).

6. I understand that Mr. Pascoe has also written to you on this matter (on 23 November 2010).



Asha-Rose Migiro
30 November 2010

cc:

Mr. Nambiar
Mr. Pascoe
Mr. Kim
Mr. Haysom
Mr. Yoon
