

Copy

Secretary-General's 'Thank you' letters for his trip to Greece and UK

Greece

1. His Excellency Mr. Karolos Papoulias, President of the Hellenic Republic
2. His Excellency Mr. George A. Papandreou, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic
3. His Excellency Mr. Philippos I. Petsalnikos, President of the Hellenic Parliament
4. Her Excellency Mrs. Louka Katseli, Minister of Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping of the Hellenic Republic
5. Her Excellency Ms. Theodora Tzakri, Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralization and e-Governance of the Hellenic Republic
6. His Excellency Mr. Anastassis Mitsialis, Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations
7. Mr. Giuseppe Belsito, Regional Programme Coordinator of the UNDP office in Athens
8. Mr. Dimitrios Pantermalis, President of the Board of Directors of the Acropolis Museum
9. Captain Panagiotis Tsakos

UK

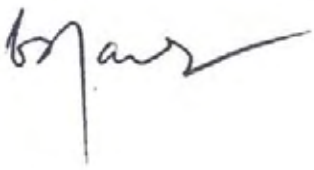
10. His Excellency Mr. Gordon Brown, MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
11. Mr. Martin Palmer, Secretary General of the Alliance of Religions and Conservation
12. Mr. Roland Fasel, General Manager, Dorchester Hotel

Drafted by: DPA/ LT / DESA

Proofread by: LT

Authorized by:

Date: 25 November 2009



UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

25 November 2009

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letters to the following addressees:

- His Excellency Mr. Karolos Papoulias, President of the Hellenic Republic
- His Excellency Mr. George A. Papandreou, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic
- His Excellency Mr. Philippos I. Petsalnikos, President of the Hellenic Parliament
- Her Excellency Mrs. Louka Katseli, Minister of Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping of the Hellenic Republic
- Her Excellency Ms. Theodora Tzakri, Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralization and e-Governance of the Hellenic Republic
- Mr. Dimitrios Pantermalis, President of the Board of Directors of the Acropolis Museum
- Mrs. Ada Papandreou, Spouse of His Excellency Mr. George A. Papandreou.

Copies of the letters are attached for your information.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Nambiar'.

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Anastassis Mitsialis
Permanent Representative Greece
to the United Nations
New York

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

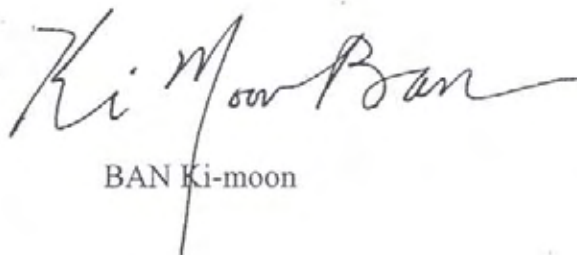
Excellency,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the warm reception and gracious hospitality accorded to me, my wife and my whole delegation, during our visit to Greece. In particular, I wish to thank you for the exquisite lunch generously hosted for me at the Presidential Palace and, on behalf of my wife, for the wonderful luncheon hosted by Mrs. Papoulias. Thank you as well for the thoughtful gifts, which will serve as wonderful mementos of our visit.

Especially welcome was the opportunity to exchange views on a broad range of issues of mutual interest to the United Nations and Greece. I trust that our discussions on the Millennium Development Goals, the resolution of regional issues and climate change will help us to advance towards lasting and meaningful progress.

I value your continued support of the United Nations and the contributions of Greece. I look forward to deepening our relationship through our future efforts together.

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



BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Karolos Papoulias
President of the Hellenic Republic
Athens



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Excellency,

I would like to sincerely thank you for the warm reception and gracious hospitality accorded to me, my wife and my delegation during my recent trip to Athens, and in particular for the exquisite dinner generously hosted for me at the Hotel Grande-Bretagne.

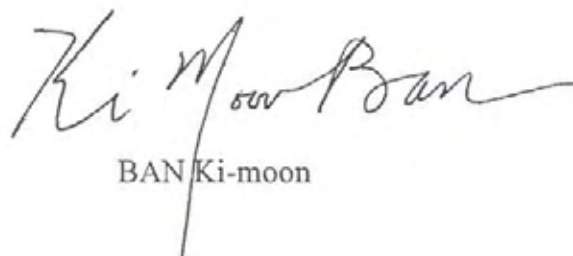
I greatly appreciated the opportunity to discuss with you a number of important issues of mutual interest to the United Nations and Greece.

I would like to reiterate my appreciation for your commitment to contribute to a lasting settlement in Cyprus as well as to a resolution of the name issue with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. I was encouraged by your firm support and promotion of the climate change agenda and count on your continued support in Copenhagen. I am also grateful for your ongoing efforts on the issue of migration, and look forward to working with Greece on this issue within the framework of the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

Your support for the work of the United Nations is highly valued. I look forward to seeing you again in Copenhagen for the United Nations Climate Change Conference.

I would like to thank you for your thoughtful gift as well.

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


BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. George A. Papandreou
Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic
Athens



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Excellency,

Upon my return to New York, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to meet with you during my recent trip to Greece. In particular, I feel deeply honoured to have been the first United Nations Secretary-General to address the Hellenic Parliament.

I highly valued our useful and comprehensive exchanges of views on many issues that are of great interest to both Greece and the United Nations, including the Millennium Development Goals, ending violence against women and the resolution of regional issues.

I am deeply encouraged by the firm commitment of Greece to the promotion of peace and development in the world and its continued support for the United Nations. I look forward to continuing our work together in the future.

Thank you as well for your thoughtful gifts, which will serve as wonderful mementos of our visit.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Ki Moon Ban' in a cursive style.
BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Philippos I. Petsalnikos
President of the Hellenic Parliament
Athens



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Excellency,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to meet with you during my recent trip to Greece.

I highly valued our useful and comprehensive exchange of views on issues that are of great interest to both Greece and the United Nations, including the global financial crisis, the international development agenda and shipping.

I am deeply encouraged by the commitment of Greece to even greater engagement with the United Nations, including the enhancement of the UNDP presence in Greece to a regional office in order to carry out new initiatives. I look forward to working together in the future.

Thank you as well for your thoughtful gift, which will serve as a wonderful memento of my visit.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban".

BAN Ki-moon

Her Excellency
Mrs. Louka Katseli
Minister of Economy, Competitiveness
and Shipping of the Hellenic Republic
Athens



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Excellency,

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to your country for successfully organizing and hosting the 3rd Global Forum on Migration and Development in Athens on 4 and 5 November 2009. I would also like to express my appreciation to you for the valuable assistance extended to me on the occasion of the Global Forum. Let me also thank you for the opportunity to exchange views with the members of the Troika at the breakfast meeting prior to the opening of the Forum.

I was very pleased that you selected the theme "Integrating migration policies into development strategies for the benefit of all", thereby placing development at the heart of this year's deliberations. As I noted in my opening remarks, the goal of the Global Forum on Migration and Development is to harness the power of migration to reduce poverty and inequality and to contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Despite the current economic and financial crisis, the Forum successfully maintained its focus on the long-term gains of migration for countries of origin and destination as well as for migrants.

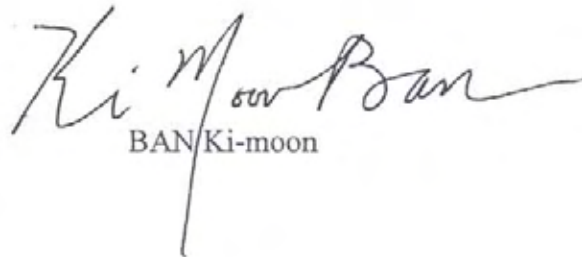
It was also gratifying to see that many ideas generated by the civil society days found their way in the governmental deliberations and that gender was treated as a cross-cutting issue. I look forward to receiving the report of this year's Global Forum which, in line with established practice, will be circulated among Member States. On that occasion, it might be useful to schedule a briefing of Member States to present the outcomes of the Global Forum.

Her Excellency
Ms. Theodora Tzakri
Deputy Minister of Interior, Decentralization
and e-Governance of the Hellenic Republic
Athens

I trust that you will remain very engaged with the Global Forum process. In particular, we have to consider how the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development can benefit from the achievements of the Global Forum process.

During my bilateral visit to Greece, I had excellent meetings and I am profoundly grateful to the Hellenic Government for its support to the United Nations. I look forward to continue working with the Government and people of Greece to address the challenges ahead, in particular those related to the global recession and to climate change. I count on the support of your country in accelerating the achievement of the MDGs and in making the 2010 MDG Review Summit a success.

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


BAN Ki-moon



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Dear Mr. Belsito,

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you and your staff at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the excellent support and warm welcome that my delegation and I received during my recent official visit to Greece. Your detailed and efficient arrangements contributed greatly to the success of my visit.

I am particularly grateful for your assistance in liaising with the organizers of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I thank you as well for inviting me to address the UN staff in Athens.

It was also a great pleasure to have met with you to discuss various challenges which the United Nations faces. I am encouraged by the support expressed by Her Excellency Mrs. Louka Katseli, Minister of Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping of the Hellenic Republic, for the expansion of the UNDP presence in Greece to a regional office.

I look forward to seeing you again in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ban Ki-moon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ban" being the most prominent.
BAN/Ki-moon

Mr. Giuseppe Belsito
Regional Programme Coordinator of the
United Nations Development Programme
in Athens
Athens



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Excellency,


I would like to express my deep appreciation to you and your team at the Permanent Mission for your assistance and support in connection with my official visit to Greece.

I am well aware of the complex logistics that were involved in arranging the visit, both in New York and on the ground in Athens. The organization, information and other help provided by you in New York and Athens was of tremendous assistance in the planning of my visit.

Your presence in Athens during my visit was particularly appreciated.

I am most grateful for the strong partnership between Greece and the United Nations and I look forward to our continued close cooperation.

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


BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Anastassis Mitsialis
Permanent Representative
of Greece to the United Nations
New York



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

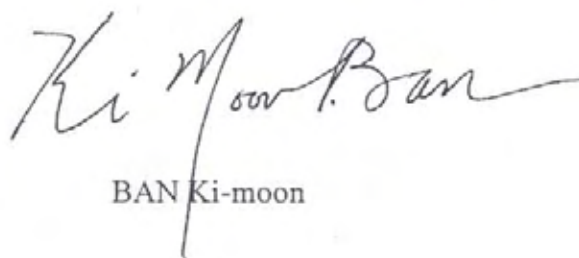
Dear Mr. Pantermalis,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to tour the Acropolis Museum with you during my recent trip to Greece. My wife and I were very impressed by the beauty of this new museum and enthralled by the exhibits that we saw. Your expert commentary and insights were very informative and brought to life the richness of Greek history. Our visit was indeed a "walk through history".

Thank you as well for your thoughtful gift, which will serve as a wonderful memento of the visit.

Please convey my best wishes to the Board of Directors and staff of the Acropolis Museum.

Yours sincerely,


BAN Ki-moon

Mr. Dimitrios Pantermalis
President of the Board of Directors
Acropolis Museum
Athens



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 November 2009

Dear Captain Tsakos,

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you and your wife for your kind hospitality in hosting a luncheon for my wife and me during our recent visit to Athens. It was a great pleasure to see you again and the luncheon was most enjoyable.

Thank you as well for your thoughtful gifts, which will serve as wonderful mementos of our visit.

Yours sincerely,

Ki Moon Ban
BAN Ki-moon

Captain Panagiotis Tsakos
Athens