



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

17 December 2008

Dear Ms. Albright,

I wish to thank you for your letter dated 9 December 2008 and for the report *Preventing Genocide: A Blueprint for U.S. Policymakers* which was enclosed with it.

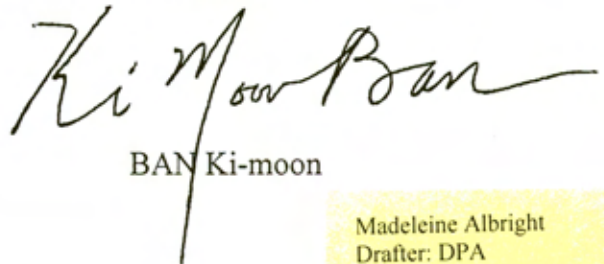
I would like to congratulate you for tackling the important and profound challenge of preventing genocide and mass atrocities. Your report provides insights about the challenge and practical recommendations, many of which are relevant not only for the United States, but also for others in the international community.

I wholeheartedly agree with your conclusion that international cooperation is a desirable and necessary requirement for successful efforts to prevent genocide. I appreciate your recommendation that the United States should support the efforts currently under way to elevate the priority of genocide and mass atrocities at the United Nations, including the work of my special adviser on the prevention of genocide and my special adviser on the responsibility to protect. In addition, I note with interest your bold recommendation that the United States should seek to persuade the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to forego the use or threat of the veto in cases concerning genocide and mass atrocities.

I am fully committed to working with you and all other interested parties towards making prevention of genocide and mass atrocities a reality, and I look forward to your contributions in this field in the future.

I wish to inform you that a similar letter has been sent to Mr. Cohen.

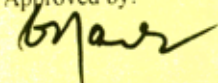
Yours sincerely,



BAN Ki-moon

The Honorable Madeleine K. Albright
Co-chair
Genocide Prevention Task Force
Washington, D.C.

Madeleine Albright
Drafter: DPA
Proofread by: NH/MZ
Approved by:



Date: 17 December 2008