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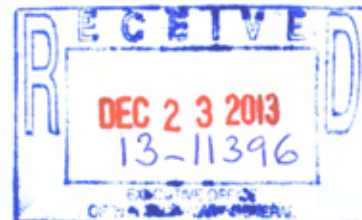
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Hussain Muhammad Ershad M.P.
Former President
People's Republic of Bangladesh
Chairman, Jatiyo Party

His Excellency Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

Dear Secretary General,



I extend to you my gratitude for all your efforts to ensure peace in my troubled nation. Your Assistant Secretary-General, Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, has employed himself fully and left no stone unturned to help find effective solutions to our political impasse. I thank him on behalf of Bangladesh for his efforts and I wholeheartedly thank you both for not bringing the brave boys of our Armed Forces into political discussions. As former Chief of the Armed Forces I do not want the good name of my gallant boys dragged into this political mire.

20/12/13

While the problems we now face seem insurmountable, there are possible solutions that I have discussed with the Assistant Secretary-General. I am, and have always been, a soldier for democracy, and we cannot uphold democracy in my nation if we cannot ensure an inclusive election and in order to do this we need an interim government that can be acceptable to all.

The most important consideration will have to be given to the head of the poll-time government. To be acceptable as the head he must meet the following criterion:

- i. Be politically neutral
- ii. Not partake in the polls himself
- iii. Not currently hold membership in any political party partaking in the polls

Just choosing the right head of government shall not suffice, for we will need to provide constitutional mandate to an interim poll-time government. Such mandate can only be provided through our sovereign parliament. If the Prime Minister recalls parliament and makes necessary amendments to the Constitution to empower a poll-time interim government in supersession of current constitutional provisions then post-parliamentary-dissolution we shall have an additional 90-days to hold the polls and a constitutional crisis will be averted.

I hope for your continued support for my nation and upholding its democracy.

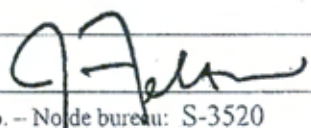
Sincerely yours,

Hussain Muhammad Ershad (M.P.)
Former President of Bangladesh
& Chairman, Jatiyo Party



Cc: Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations

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TO/A: Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General				
CC: Ms. Susana Malcorra, Chef de Cabinet				
THROUGH/WISE PAR:				
FROM/DE: Jeffrey Feltman, USG, DPA 				
Date: 20 December 2013		Ext: 3-7094		Room No. -- No de bureau: S-3520
FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER		
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Please find attached a letter from the Chairperson of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and a letter from a former President of Bangladesh & Chairman of Jatiyo Party addressed to the Secretary-General.

