

EU

Somalia

29 May 2009

~~Political~~ / Political Unit (NH)

The attached correspondence was handed to the Secretary-General this afternoon during his meeting with the EU Special Representative.

The SG's handwritten note attached indicates that the EU expects feedback in this regard.

The CdC has instructed that this correspondence should be logged and a note sent to Mr. Haile Menkerios requesting said feedback by Monday, 1 June.

Grateful you keep these instructions with the file so the Political Unit may act accordingly.

Many thanks,
Janice

CdC/DPA (Pascoe)
EU wants to have
our feedback.

29-05648



CONSILIUM

**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

New York Liaison Office
to the United Nations

Ambassador

222 EAST 41st STREET (20th FLOOR)

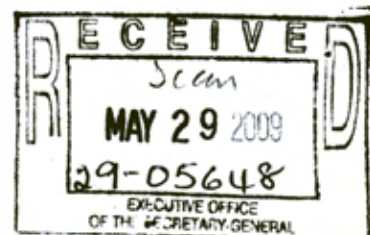
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NYLO 2009/35

New York, 29 May 2009



H.E. Mr. Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York, NY 10017

(fixed)

**ACTION
COPY**

Mr. Pascoe
VN
MH

Dear Ambassador Nambiar,

Dear Vijay,

I have the honour of enclosing a copy of the letter sent by the Secretary-General/ High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, Mr Javier Solana, to all Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the EU and to all Ministers of Defence of the EU, on the conflict in Somalia.

In his letter, SG/HR Solana presents some initial reflections on possible future EU actions in Somalia, which would imply the strengthening of the existing European anti-piracy Atalanta and six new potential lines of activity.

I would be very grateful if you could bring this letter to the Secretary-General's attention for his appropriate information.

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

Pedro Serrano

cc-Mr Alain Le Roy, Under-Secretary-General, DPKO

Handed to SG
by EU Sp. Rep.
12:15 on 29 May

[Handwritten signature]

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
THE SECRETARY GENERAL / HIGH REPRESENTATIVE

Brussels, 28-05-2009

SGS9/06662

Dear Minister,

The conflict in Somalia dictates an increased international effort. The rise in acts of piracy and the taking hostage of hundreds of people from dozens of countries complicates the challenge of bringing stability to the Horn of Africa. This situation constitutes a threat to international order. It requires a global and determined action.

The EU took the initiative by launching its first naval operation in the Gulf of Aden at the end of 2008. Working in coordination with all the partners, our counter-piracy efforts have been successful in bringing greater security to the waters off Somalia. The holding of the international Conference on Somalia in Brussels under the auspices of the United Nations and the European Commission with all the key actors in April demonstrated our strong commitment to the Transitional Federal Government.

Today we need to move forward and to look closer at the root causes of the phenomenon. Some of our EU Members States are already working on new initiatives. Our meeting at the May Council bore a fruitful discussion. Based on this I have developed a number of proposals in the 6-monthly report of the naval operation "Atalanta" for possible concrete actions along two axes : the strengthening of Atalanta, and 6 new potential areas of work.

First, we should build on the success of Atalanta.

This is an impressive mission which we should give greater visibility to. We should extend its mandate for another year and expand the area of operations. This has resource implications and I would be grateful for your continued efforts to ensure that Atalanta has the means necessary to fully execute its mission. I have also made proposals for how we can adapt its mandate.

To all Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the EU
To all Ministers of Defence of the EU

Second and importantly, we should look at longer term durable solutions for stability in Somalia and the region - both at sea and on land.

Along 6 lines of activity :

- consideration for the appointment of an EU Special Representative for the region;
- regional maritime capability development;
- reinforced support to the African Union in Somalia;
- capacity building for the Somali Security sector, (including the Somali Police Force, Coast Guard, and National Security Forces);
- long term assistance strategy for Somalia;
- reinforced international legal framework to increase the risks and decrease the profits for pirates.

I would like to use the occasion of our forthcoming meetings, at the Luxembourg Council in June and in the margins of the next OSCE and G8 ministerial meetings for instance, to have a thorough discussion on these proposals and I look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Javier Solana', with a long, sweeping diagonal stroke extending from the bottom right of the signature.

Javier SOLANA