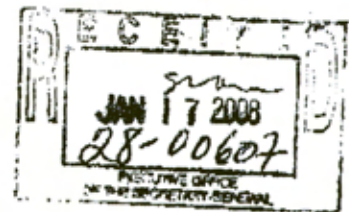


Algiers bombing VN
UNOG DM



Note to the Secretary-General

Preparations for the Memorial Ceremony for the UN victims of
the Algiers bombing
(Geneva, 23 January, 3 pm)

Noted by SG

1. UNOG has been responsible for the following arrangements:

- Scenario of the ceremony in Geneva
- Invitation letters from the Director-General of UNOG to the Permanent Representatives of the Missions in Geneva, and the heads of Geneva based agencies
- Travel including air travel, accommodation, and ground transportation in Geneva between airport, hotel and UNOG
- Visas for the family members attending the ceremony, in coordination with the Swiss Permanent Mission in Geneva
- Collecting photos of the victims, biographical and professional information of the victims
- Framing the flag: Flag to be sent to Geneva in advance by the Security Team and be framed in Geneva.

2. DM has been providing support in the following areas:

- The SG's invitation letters to family members of the victims (A total of 41 family members have confirmed the attendance.)
- The Chef de Cabinet's invitation letters to the heads of non-Geneva based agencies including UNDP, UNFPA, UNIDO, and WFP
- Coordination with agencies involved, including on administrative matters
- Arranging for the broadcast view of the ceremony in New York
- Dispatching of a staff member of MINURSO providing assistance to the UNDP Office in Algiers in making arrangements for travel and visas
- Issuance of an announcement on i-Seek

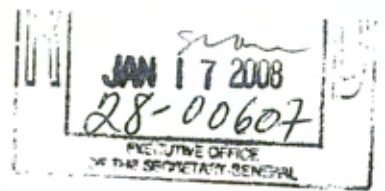
3. Pending/Sensitive Issues:

a. Invitation to the Algerian Government

- **Issue:** The Algerian Government has expressed through the UNDP Office in Algiers that they should be invited to the ceremony. UNOG confirmed that a note verbale has been sent to all Permanent Missions in Geneva. However, it seems that the Algerian Government would like to receive a separate invitation. The Resident Coordinator (RC) of UNDP-Algiers is checking on it.
- **Recommended action:** Depending upon the advice of the RC, EOSG may wish to consult with the Permanent Representative of the Algerian Mission in NY.

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Algiers bombing
UNOG
DM

VVI



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- **Recommended action:** Depending upon the advice of the RC, EOSG may wish to consult with the Permanent Representative of the Algerian Mission in NY.

b. Invitation to those injured:

- **Issue:** At the request of EOSG, we have looked into the possibility of inviting those staff members who were injured by the bombing. Given the complexity surrounding medical conditions of each staff member, special medical attention required, and decision as to who should be and not be invited, it may not be possible to invite them at this time. However, UNOG has informed this morning that the security guard who tried to block the truck will be attending the ceremony.
- **Recommended action:** It is important that the focus of the ceremony should be on those who were killed and their family members attending the ceremony, not the security guard, who is not a staff member. Therefore, any remarks to be made at the ceremony should not make a reference to any particular person, particularly the security guard, but highlight those deceased and their family members.

c. Funds and Programmes:

- **Issue:** The Administrator of UNDP, in particular, is concerned that he/his management team have not been consulted on the memorial ceremony from the beginning. There is a sentiment that since UNDP is the one that was hit the hardest by the bombing, it should have played a leading role in the organization of the ceremony, including deciding on the timing, venue, etc, rather than the Secretariat.
- **Recommended action:** EOSG may wish to speak to the heads of UNDP and UNFPA to provide explanations on this issue.

d. Staff representatives:

- **Issue:** UNOG was approached by the Staff Council in Geneva asking to be given the opportunity to make a short statement, expressing the emotions that staff felt upon hearing of the tragedy in Algiers. The statement, presented by the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Bureau of the Staff Council, is expected to be no longer than 1-2 minutes. This statement will be made after the SG unveils the framed flag and returns to his seat, and before the candle-lighting ceremony.

In this connection, the staff representatives in New York, particularly the President of UNDP/UNICEF Staff Council (Mr. Dimitri Samaras), and the President of Staff Union in New York (Mr. Stephen Kisambira), may wish to play a role during the broadcast view of the ceremony in New York. They already expressed a concern on the timing and the rationale of having the memorial ceremony in Geneva, not in Algiers. DM is contacting them to inform of the memorial ceremony and its scenario in New York.

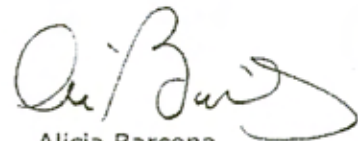
- **Recommended action:** The Chef de Cabinet should meet with them before the ceremony on Wednesday to explain the timing and the rationale of having the ceremony in Geneva.

e. **Seating arrangement in New York**

- **Issue:** The DSG, the President of the GA, the Chef de Cabinet, the Executive Director of UNFPA, and the Deputy Administrator of UNDP will be seated at the podium. The first few rows will be reserved for the USGs and the Permanent Representatives. The staff representative of UNDP may seek to be seated at the podium.
- **Recommended action:** Since the event is for staff and is ceremonial in nature, the staff representative of UNDP may be seated at the podium.

f. **Other issues:**

- **Media:** The ceremony in Geneva will be open to the media and be broadcast live through webcast signal, which is also available to the media. Therefore, DPI recommends that the NY broadcast also be open to the media.
- **Invitation to all USGs:** An e-mail needs to go out to all USGs inviting them to attend. Protocol recommends this be done by the Chef de Cabinet.



Alicia Barcena
16 January 2008

CdC		SG	
For SG's approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's attention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Noted	<input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seen	<input type="checkbox"/>
For SG's signature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Signed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date	21-01-2008	Date	
Comment (if applicable):			

[28-00607]



Kay Govia/NY/UNO
16/01/2008 07:31 PM

To Vijay Nambiar/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Wonsoo
Kim/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Sanghwa Lee/NY/UNO@UNHQ
cc Alicia Barcena/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Simona
Petrova/NY/UNO@UNHQ
bcc

Subject Note from Ms. Bárcena re Memorial ceremony for the victims
of the Algiers bombing

At the request of Ms. Bárcena, please find attached a note on the status of preparations of the ceremony
for victims of the Algiers bombing.



Document.pdf