



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

ASEAN
Philippines

11 June 2007

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for inviting me to attend the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on 30 July 2007 in Manila to meet the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and to sign an outcome document.

I have been following ASEAN initiatives this year under your chairmanship with great interest and encouragement. I welcome the fact that the relationship between the two organizations has become stronger over the years. ASEAN and the United Nations are natural partners and building on past experience and cooperation, I believe that we can move our relationship further to the next level.

Further to my letter to you of 5 March, however, I regret to inform you that due to prior commitments, I am not able to travel to Manila at the time of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting. I believe that the meeting would provide an excellent opportunity to further develop the relationship between the two organizations, and I will ensure that a senior-level official from the Department of Political Affairs represent the United Nations at the meeting.

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


Ban Ki-moon

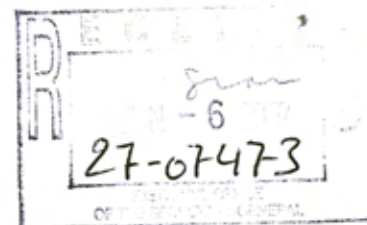
His Excellency
Mr. Alberto Gatmaitan Romulo
Secretary for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of the Philippines
Manila

27-07473

ASEAN
Philippines

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Note to Mr. Nambiar

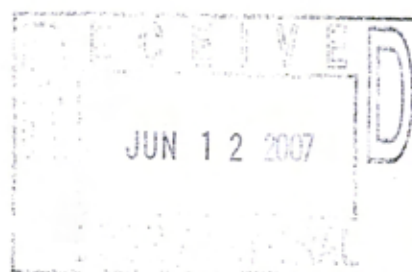
ASEAN-FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

- (#27-04294)
1. Reference is made to the invitation extended to the Secretary-General by the Foreign Secretary of the Philippines, in his capacity as the ASEAN Chair to attend a working dinner on 30 July and to meet with the ASEAN Ministers. We have been advised by your office that the Secretary-General will not be able to visit Manila at this time and have prepared the attached letter for his signature. The letter proposes that the Secretary-General would designate a senior official from DPA to represent him at the meeting.
 2. The Philippines has also led the initiative for ASEAN to enter into a Framework Agreement with the United Nations and is finalizing its consultations with the membership. ASEAN as a regional organization has evolved significantly over the years and has taken concrete steps towards establishing an ASEAN Community by 2020. The adoption of the ASEAN Charter later this year at the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN would indicate a significant step in that direction. The ASEAN initiative to enter into a framework agreement should be viewed in the context of ASEAN's evolution, as well as the United Nations' overall commitment to strengthen relations with Regional Organizations.
 3. Once we receive the draft text of the proposed Framework Agreement DPA will initiate system-wide consultations towards an agreed text that would then be cleared by OLA. We will keep you informed of any further developments.

B. Lynn Pascoe
5 June 2007

BS

cc: Ms. Kane



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

11 June 2007

Excellency,

The Secretary-General would be grateful if you could kindly forward the enclosed letter to His Excellency Mr. Alberto Gatmaitan Romulo, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

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


Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Hilario G. Davide, Jr.
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of the Philippines to the United Nations
New York



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

5 March 2007

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your letter dated 19 February 2007, inviting me to meet with His Excellency Mr. Hilario G. Davide, Jr., the newly appointed Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations. I had the pleasure to meet with him on 2 March upon his presentation of credentials.

I am also grateful to you for conveying to me the invitation by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for me to visit the Philippines. I hope to be able to accept her kind invitation in the near future. However, I trust you will understand that I am unfortunately unable to provide you with a definitive reply at this stage.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ki Moon Ban", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the name "Ban Ki-moon" is printed in a standard font.

Ban Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Alberto Gatmaitan Romulo
Secretary for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of the Philippines
Manila

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US Mission

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THE SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

19 February 2006

Excellency,

Allow me to thank you once again for the meeting we had last month. Our discussions were truly fruitful and have strengthened the cooperation between the Philippines and the United Nations.

Let me take this opportunity to advise you that H.E. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has appointed H.E. Ambassador Hilario G. Davide, Jr., as the new Philippine Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. Ambassador Davide enjoys the full confidence of President Arroyo and of the Philippine Government. As a former Chief Justice of the Philippines, Ambassador Davide also brings to his new position consummate statesmanship, a profound sense of duty, and a firm understanding of many major issues on the global agenda.

I have advised Ambassador Davide to seek an early meeting with you, so that he may maintain the momentum of our discussions last month. It is my hope that you will be able to accommodate him, despite your busy schedule, in the light of the urgent priorities that the Philippines and the United Nations must address together.

(#27-03391) I likewise wish to reiterate the invitation of President Arroyo for you to visit the Philippines when your schedule permits. The President wishes to receive you on such a visit in order to deepen and broaden our relationship.

As the current ASEAN Chairman, the Philippines will host the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting at the end of July. Your presence during this event would contribute greatly to accelerating ASEAN-UN partnership as well as provide a venue for a discussion of critical global issues.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest reconsideration.


ALBERTO G. ROMULO

His Excellency BAN KI-MOON
Secretary General
The United Nations
New York

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CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

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5 March 2007

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A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

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


Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

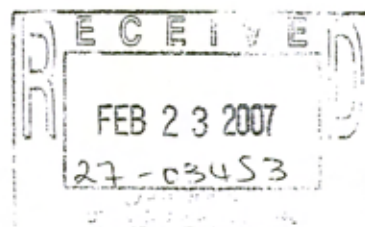
His Excellency
Mr. Hilario G. Davide, Jr.
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of the Philippines
to the United Nations
New York

MISYON NG PILIPINAS SA MGA
NAGKAKAISANG BANSA



556 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036
TEL. NO. (212) 764-1300

PHILIPPINE MISSION TO THE
UNITED NATIONS



0109

23 February 2007

Excellency,

I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of a letter from H.E. Alberto G. Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, relating to the appointment of Ambassador Hilario G. Davide, Jr. as Permanent Representative of the Philippines and an invitation for the Secretary General to visit the Philippines.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

BAYANI S. MERCADO
Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

His Excellency Ban Ki Moon
Secretary General
United Nations
New York