



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Italy
Albania
Invits/for Rep.

Central

22 May 1997

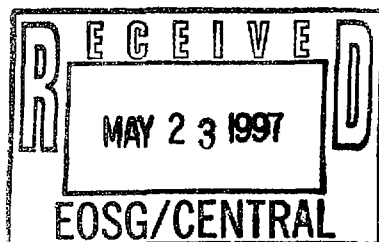
Excellency,

I write to thank you for your letter of 16 May informing me of the Italian proposal to call an international conference on Albania and inviting me to be represented at the preparatory conference in Rome on 26 May.

As you are aware, the United Nations' role has focussed on the humanitarian aspects of the situation in Albania and I am conscious that European organizations are actively involved in addressing the political and economic aspects.

In the circumstances, I believe it would be useful for me to be represented in an observer capacity and to that end I am instructing Ms. Lisa Bутtenheim, Senior Political Advisor to the Director-General, UN Office at Geneva, to attend the preparatory meeting on 26 May.

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

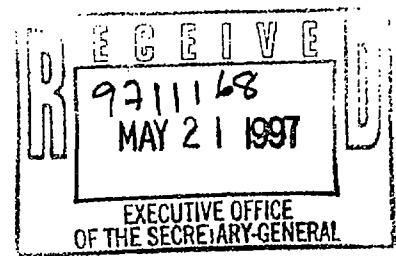


Kofi A. Annan

His Excellency
Mr. Francesco Paolo Fulci
Permanent Representative of Italy
to the United Nations
New York

RK(12)

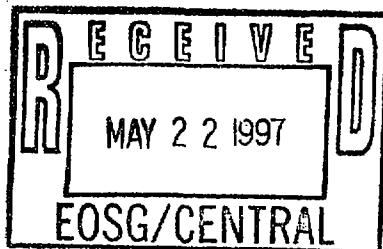
Note to Mr. Riza

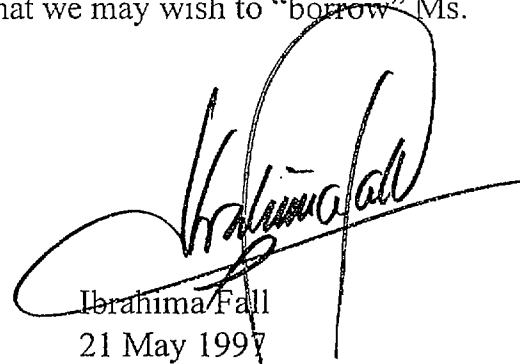


ALBANIA - MEETING IN ROME ON MONDAY 26 MAY

(#97-10986)

1. I attach a draft reply to the Italian invitation to a preparatory meeting in Rome on 26 May prior to an international conference on Albania on 18 June.
2. To date, the Secretary-General has been given no political mandate by the Security Council: our participation has been limited to humanitarian activities. We should be careful not to be drawn too closely into the Albanian issue while, at the same time, we should continue to keep ourselves informed of political and economic developments.
3. The attached draft therefore proposes that the Secretary-General should be represented in an observer capacity, following which a decision could be taken as to who should attend the ministerial conference on 18 June (e.g. ECE, UNDP) and at what level.
4. Mr. Petrovsky has not yet been informed that we may wish to "borrow" Ms. Buttenheim for next Monday's meeting.




Ibrahima Fall
21 May 1997

Mr. Fall *Dr. Pank* *Fire*

cc: K. Prendergast
D. Boothby

