

Kiki please convey the
message and prepare a note
for him to sign
(I will be travelling
later today)



UN1896

CARLOS LOPES

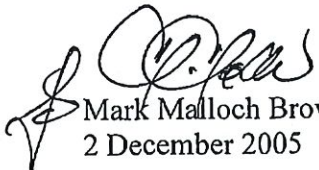
DPA

Note to Mr. Gambari

**First meeting of the Standing Committee for the
Preparations of the seventh high-level meeting between
The UN and Regional Organizations**

Further to your note of 29 November on the first Standing Committee meeting, your proposal has the Secretary-General's approval. Please resubmit the draft letter from the Secretary-General to the organizations clarifying in the second page whether we will be sharing the budget with them.

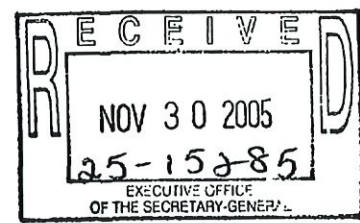
Thank you.


Mark Malloch Brown
2 December 2005

DEC - 2

~~SG~~
by decision
20/11/05

LCL
cc KSK
(...)



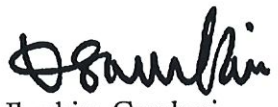
Note to the Secretary-General

FIRST MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE PREPARATIONS OF THE SEVENTH HIGH-LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN THE UN AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

At the Sixth High-Level Meeting that you chaired on 25 and 26 July 2005 in New York with Heads of Regional and other Intergovernmental Organizations it was decided to establish a Standing Committee to provide strategic direction and follow-up between the high-level meetings.

We have undertaken consultations on the composition of this Committee. I am proposing a composition based on the following principles: 1) limited but rotational membership which would allow each organization to serve as a member of the Committee for a one-year term within a two year period; 2) full transparency, as those organizations that are not regular members in a given year could attend the meetings as observers at a working level; and 3) an effort to distribute organizations as evenly as possible, in terms of their perceived status, geographical location and contribution, between the years 2006 and 2007.

I am proposing 16 and 17 February 2006 as the dates of the first Standing Committee meeting. I hope that you would be able to open the meeting as this will be a founding meeting for a much strengthened process of our cooperation with these organizations. Finally, the draft letter from you to the organizations that participated in the July meeting is attached for your approval.


Ibrahim Gambari
29 November 2005



2/12

November 2005

Excellency,

I am writing to thank you for your participation in the Sixth High-Level Meeting between the United Nations and Regional and other Intergovernmental Organizations, which took place on 25 and 26 July 2005 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. In my view, the meeting achieved many useful results. One of the issues that found widespread agreement was the establishment of a Standing Committee which is to act as an initiator of ideas, a mobilizer of political will and sustainable direction, and to ensure implementation of the decisions taken.

I would like to share with you my plans to establish the Standing Committee. Based on the consultations undertaken and comments received, I propose that the first meeting of the Standing Committee shall take place on 16 and 17 February 2006 in New York and be chaired by Mr. Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. Mr. Gambari will communicate to you shortly the agenda and other details of the meeting.

Regarding the composition of the Standing Committee, I recall that in the original proposal the Committee was seen as a representative, senior-level body that could act between high-level meetings on behalf of all participating organizations. Views were subsequently expressed by colleagues that were broadly divided between a Standing Committee with a limited membership and one with an open membership. I believe that it is doing justice to the original intent and the views expressed that the Standing Committee be comprised of a limited but rotational membership of about ten organizations acting on behalf of the full membership. All other organizations should feel free to participate as observers at a working level in the proceedings of the Committee.

Name
Title
Organization

I propose that the membership of the Standing Committee be comprised as set out for the years 2006 and 2007 in the attachment. During this period all organizations that participated in our July meeting have a chance to be members of the Committee. Later we will judge how successful and effective this trial period and the composition have been. We still have to determine the role in this process of those organizations that usually attend our meetings but were unable to do so in July 2005.

I would also like to remind you that the Secretariat for the High-Level Meetings created within the UN's Department of Political Affairs, as well as its research partner, UNU-CRIS (United Nations University - Comparative Regional Integration Studies programme), is in urgent need of financial support. Although I am doing my best to ensure that the necessary resources are approved in the next budget cycle, this takes time. In the meantime, it is essential for the continuation and shared ownership of our efforts that the organizations themselves contribute to the Trust Fund to be established for this purpose later this month. I would invite your pledges to assist in financing this joint activity.

I would also like to inform you of the establishment of the High-Level Group for Alliance of Civilizations. It is expected to present a report to me in the second half of 2006 with an aim to give direction to the Alliance of Civilizations initiative. It will also affect our planned work in this area which we should jointly review and discuss after the report is issued.

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

Kofi A. Annan

are you
sure
a budget
with free

**PROPOSED COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH-
LEVEL MEETING WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
FOR 2006 AND 2007**

2006

African Union

Caribbean Community

Collective Security Treaty Organisation

Commonwealth Secretariat

European Union

International Organization of la Francophonie

Interpol

League of Arab States

Organisation of Security and Cooperation in Europe

Pacific Island Forum

2007

Commonwealth of Independent States

Community of Portuguese-speaking countries

Council of Europe

Economic Community of Central African States

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Organization of American States

Organization of the Islamic Conference

Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Southern African Development Community