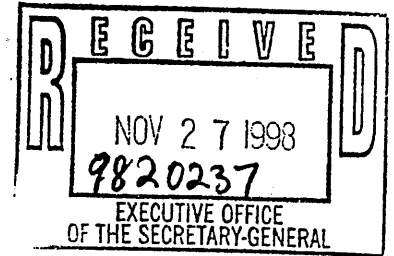


YM
11/27/98

The Director-General

GIC-DG/98/1486 Rome, 26.XI.1998

By facsimile

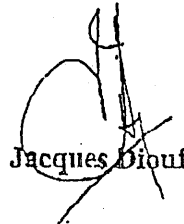


Dear Secretary-General,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Hundred and Fifteenth Session of the FAO Council, which opened on 23 November 1998, welcomed the adoption of UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/53/24 proclaiming the year 2002 as the International Year of Mountains and inviting FAO to serve as lead agency for this year. The Council also requested me to transmit this message of support to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would inform the President of the General Assembly of this concrete sign of support from the FAO Council.

Yours sincerely,


Jacques Diouf

Fraternellement

Mr. Kofi Annan
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York