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Item-in-KAA: RELIEF OPS/OCHA - 2005 - Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs/Office of the Emergency Relief Coordinator Date Created Date Registered Date Closed

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Notes

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Note to Messrs. Gambari and Michel

US request for UN compliance with its list of terrorist organizations

Attached please find a self-explanatory note from Mr. Egeland on the above subject. It would be greatly appreciated if you could jointly advise the Secretary-General on how to proceed on this issue.

Thank you.

Max Mallon Som

Mark Malloch Brown 5 July 2005

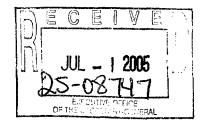
cc Mr. Egeland (without attachment)

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MME



Note to Mr. Malloch Brown

US request for UN compliance with its list of terrorist organizations

Attached, please find a copy of a letter from the United States Ambassador in Geneva to USG Egeland, received through our OCHA office in Geneva.

The letter, in very strong terms, calls upon OCHA and other UN agencies to review their internal procedures to ensure compliance with the US Treasury's list of NGOs that have been labeled "specially designated terrorist". OCHA has been requested to submit information on its existing procedures, measures to strengthen those procedures and assurances that we do not currently or in the future entertain contractual or financial relationships with such designated organizations.

Informally, we have received information that the letter has been consolidated by the State Department's Bureau for International Organizations and fully represent the broad views and expectations of the US government. In addition to OCHA, the letter reportedly has been sent to five other agencies including UNICEF, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNHCR and UNDP. A similar letter will also be sent to the Secretary-General.

The issue has its origins in a controversy over one of UNICEFs implementing partners in Sudan, namely the Islamic African Relief Agency (IARA). UNICEF had been requested by the US government to sever all its ties with that organization, earlier this year. According to the information conveyed to us by the US, discussions with UNICEF did not result in any satisfactory solution. As a result, the US now feels the need to follow this up at a higher level and more widely, in order to meet its own obligations under national United States law.

We strongly believe that the response to this letter requires a unified response both on the part of the agencies involved as well as the United Nations secretariat. We would recommend that the views of both OLA and DPA be sought on this matter. While OCHA stands ready to facilitate discussions among the above listed agencies, we would like to seek your guidance on how the organization as a whole should approach this request.

Jan Egeland 1 July 2005



THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

June 27, 2005

ACTION

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Dear Mr. Under Secretary-General:

The United States is gravely concerned about the worldwide threat of terrorism. We, along with other nations, have acted on many fronts to deny terrorist groups or entities access to support of any kind. We have strengthened our own controls and oversight over financial transactions that could provide support to terrorist organizations. Given the support of UN member states for an end to global terrorism, it is essential that all UN organizations take all appropriate steps to end financing of terrorist groups or entities.

Our consultations with some UN agencies indicate that there is no uniform procedure to prevent contractual or financial relationships between UN organizations and terrorists and terrorist organizations. We are aware of at least two instances where UN agencies have contractual or other financial relationships with a nongovernmental organization the U.S. Treasury has designated as a "specially designated terrorist" (SDT) or "Specially Designated Global Terrorist" (SDGT).

We request that you review your internal procedures to ensure that OCHA is able to identify any relationships with organizations identified as supporting terrorism and provide us with information about such procedures and such relationships. We are concerned that continuing such relationships could do incalculable damage to the reputation of OCHA and to the reputation of the UN as a whole. In addition to the list maintained by the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee, we request that OCHA vet both prospective and existing partners against the U.S. Treasury's list of entities and individuals designated as foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs), SDTs, and SDGTs. The U.S. Treasury's list is available at <u>www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf</u>. The U.S. Treasury updates this list on a regular basis to reflect both new designations and changes in the names of entities that have been designated previously.

The Honorable

| Jan Egeland, | | | | |
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| Under Secretary-General, | | | | |
| United Nations Office for the | | | | |
| · Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, | | | | |
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I look forward to receiving 1) information on OCHA's existing procedures and how you are strengthening those procedures to prevent relationships with any FTO, SDT, or SDGT and 2) assurances that you will inform us if any such relationships continue or develop in the future despite internal procedures intended to prevent them.

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Sincerely, /loley ้ากก

Ambassador