

webcard # UN 9085

DPI

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

REMARKS AT THE SCREENING
OF *EN ROUTE TO BAGHDAD*
New York, 8 June 2005

Ms. Duarte,
Dear colleagues,

- People in many countries, on almost every continent, remember Sergio Vieira de Mello as someone who was there to help them in their hour of greatest need.
- For us in the United Nations, Sergio's work epitomized everything our Organization stands for.
- He dealt willingly with the most daunting challenges. He undertook the most uncomfortable assignments. He tackled the toughest missions.
- He had the diplomatic skill, insight, compassion and commitment to make local communities true partners in the work of the United Nations on the ground.
- There has probably never been a time in world affairs when the international community was in greater need of Sergio's qualities, character and courage than it is today.
- In the outpouring of tributes since Sergio's death, people may risk losing sight of the fact that Sergio was first and foremost a human being.
- Yet it was precisely Sergio's human side that made him what he was. He was an unbelievably caring person. He had doubts and listened to the advice others. He was approachable and accessible to everyone. He left a big void among friends and colleagues in the UN family.
- *[ST urges you to add an extemporized personal recollection of Sergio -- the first time you met him in HCR, how he went to Kosovo at 24 hours' notice, meeting him at the East Timor independence celebrations...]*
- So we are privileged in many ways that a film-maker as gifted as Simone Duarte has chosen to immortalize Sergio's life and work.
- Thank you, Ms. Duarte, for using your talent and your tenacity to pay tribute to Sergio. I know you had to overcome a number of challenges to do so. Judging by how the film has already been embraced around the world, it will do a great deal to help keep Sergio's legacy alive.
- It is a legacy of light, which will inspire humanitarians, peacekeepers, peacemakers, and peacebuilders for generations to come.

Thank you very much.

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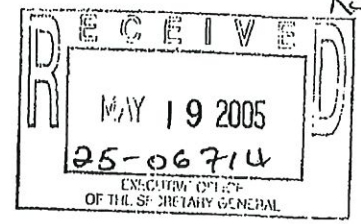
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cc: KSR

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NOTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

En Route to Baghdad

There is a good deal of interest in a screening of the documentary film about the life and work of Sergio Vieira de Mello "En Route to Baghdad" at UN Headquarters. DPI will organize this on 8 June 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium.

I should like to suggest that you say a few words before the screening. We would be pleased to adjust the timing of the screening, to suit your schedule.

Shashi Tharoor

Shashi Tharoor
18 May 2005

cc: Mr. Fawzi

- ① Klagaye - to schedule and
- ② Advise ST Kab I accept.

[Handwritten signature]