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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

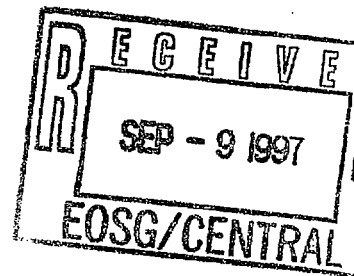
REFERENCE:

DATE: 2 September 1997

TO: Mr. Yasushi Akashi, Convenor, Executive Committee
on Humanitarian Affairs
Mr. Nitin Desai, Convenor, Executive Committee
on Economic and Social Affairs
Mr. Kieran Prendergast, Convenor, Executive Committee
on Peace and Security
Mr. James Gustave Speth, Convenor, Executive Committee
on Development Operations

FROM: The Secretary-General

SUBJECT: Reform



I should be grateful if you would reiterate to the members of your respective Executive Committees my appreciation for their support and contribution in the finalization of my reform report.

A new, concerted effort is now required in ensuring an effective and expeditious follow-up to the actions and proposals contained in the report. The Executive Committees will have a crucial role to play in the coming months in furthering the implementation of the reform actions decided upon, and in concerting interactions with the membership to promote positive action in the General Assembly on the proposals contained in the report.

I am particularly concerned that there should be an integrated treatment of my report in the Assembly, and that there should be a conclusive outcome by the time of the adjournment of the session in December. While this will depend on the membership, I would be appreciative of your efforts in this direction, individually and through the Executive Committees. This should be done in close consultation with Mr. Strong, Mr. Connor and my Executive Office, with the Steering Committee on Reform playing a monitoring and coordinating role during the Assembly session.

There should also be, throughout this process, continuing consultations among the convenors of the four Executive Committees. Such consultations should become the practice beyond the reform process and extend to the growing number of issues on the work-programmes of the Executive Committees that are of common concern.

The Administrator

United Nations Development Programme
Sustainable human development**STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

18 July 1997

Dear Iqbal,

Yesterday, the Secretary-General mentioned to me important, perhaps private letters he plans to send to the heads of funds and programmes about building support for his initiatives. We discussed the need to undo the damage that could be done by the lingering effects of the global campaign that was launched against certain Track II proposals.

In this context, the Secretary-General may want to include language along the following lines:

I trust that you will make efforts to build support for my 16 July reform initiatives at least as substantial as any efforts made to raise concerns about earlier reform proposals. This will need to be done here in New York as well as in programme countries and donor capitals. Relatedly, it is important that we work to keep attention focused on the changes I have proposed and avoid diverting attention from them by injecting new issues into the intergovernmental debate. In following these guidelines, we can set a good example of cohesion, joint effort, and mutual support which I am sure Member States will appreciate.

I am available to assist in any way in building support for the Secretary-General's initiatives.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'James Gustave Speth', written over a horizontal line.

James Gustave Speth

Mr. Iqbal Riza
Chef de Cabinet
EOSG
United Nations
New York