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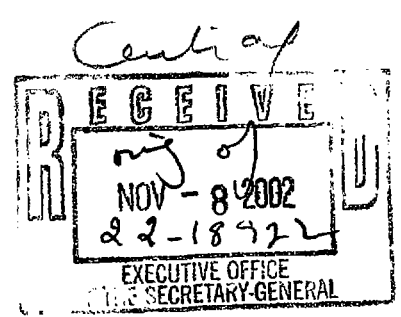
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LDC



to MM

**MINISTRY: FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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22 October 2002

Dear Secretary-General

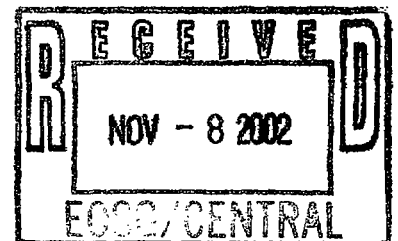
SUPPORT FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

I would like to give my strong support to the sentiments expressed in your letter dated 13 September 2002 regarding support for the special needs of the Least Developed Countries, (LDCs) Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing Countries (SIDS).

As you are aware South Africa as Chair of the Non-Alignment Movement actively supported the adoption of the Brussels Plan of Action for the LDCs. Knowing that most of the LDCs are located in Africa, South Africa, as one of the founding members of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, is striving hard to create the necessary framework for the LDCs and LLDCs to enhance their development progress. As a practical example, South Africa is already committed to the graduation of Lesotho from Least Developed status within the next five years.

My country would therefore continue to provide support for the Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in accordance with Resolution 56/227 of the General Assembly. We are also planning to budget for a modest financial contribution within the next financial year.

In this regard allow me also to congratulate the Under Secretary-General and High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, His Excellency, Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury, through your good office, for the framework that he has already put in place to deal with this important issue. The success of the Brussels Plan of Action will have a direct impact on the success of NEPAD, which is a



further reason for South Africa to support your efforts to ensure the success of this Plan of Action.

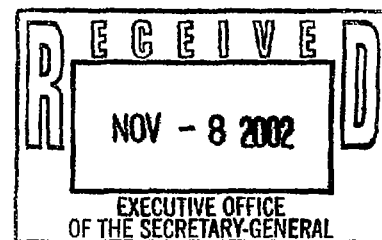
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Zuma', written in a cursive style.

pp Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma

Mr Kofi Annan
Secretary General
United Nations Headquarters
New York

09 1 212 692 2498



Note No. 335/02

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to attach herewith a letter from the Foreign Minister of the Republic of South Africa, H.E. Ms. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma pertaining to support for Least Developed Countries.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York
8 November 2002

