



Security Council

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Letter dated 26 May 2009 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to write to you regarding the support to my Special Envoy for the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA)-affected areas, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, former President of Mozambique. As you will recall, in my letter to the President of the Security Council dated 23 December 2008 (S/2008/826), I proposed, and Members of the Security Council subsequently agreed, that the mandate of the Office of my Special Envoy be extended for an additional year, until 31 December 2009, to allow my Special Envoy to continue his facilitation efforts aimed at achieving durable peace in northern Uganda.

My Special Envoy has achieved the main objectives of the mandate I gave him in December 2006. Under his facilitation and the mediation of the Government of Southern Sudan, the delegation of the Government of Uganda and the representatives of LRA to the Juba peace talks have successfully concluded their negotiations with the signing of agreements on all substantive agenda items by March 2008.

These included: (a) the agreement and annex on accountability and reconciliation, which establishes the legal framework for accountability and reconciliation mechanisms in the promotion of peace with justice in Uganda; (b) the agreement and implementation protocol on comprehensive solutions, which covers the strategic issues of rehabilitation, recovery and development of northern Uganda; (c) the agreement on a permanent ceasefire; (d) the agreement on disarmament, demobilization, repatriation and reintegration; and (e) the agreement on a monitoring mechanism and addendum to the cessation of hostilities agreement. The delegation of the Government of Uganda and the representatives of LRA also initialled the final peace agreement and agreed on an implementation schedule for it.

However, due to the failure of LRA leader Joseph Kony to honour his commitments, the delegation of the Government of Uganda and the LRA representatives are yet to sign the final peace agreement that they initialled. I concur with my Special Envoy that the onus now lies firmly with Mr. Kony to take the last step for peace and sign the final peace agreement, and that the Special Envoy has already successfully completed his assignment with the signing of the aforementioned substantive agreements.

After close consultations with my Special Envoy, it is, therefore, my intention to suspend his assignment as of 30 June 2009. In this context, the office established in Kampala to support his activities would close on 30 June 2009. Should a signing



ceremony of the final peace agreement be arranged, my Special Envoy would attend the gathering on my behalf.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my deep appreciation for the important work my Special Envoy has accomplished in discharging the difficult mandate with which he was entrusted on issues related to the northern Uganda peace process.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Ban Ki-moon**
