

The Permanent Mission  
of the Kingdom of Morocco  
to the United Nations  
New York



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Objet : version en anglais de la lettre de Madame la Ministre Délégué au Secrétaire Général

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir, ci-jointe, la traduction en anglais de la lettre adressée par Madame la Ministre Déléguée au Secrétaire général des Nations Unies au sujet de la correspondance entre ce dernier et la Présidente de la Commission de l'Union Africaine.

Il convient de rappeler que la lettre de Madame la Ministre Déléguée avait été publiée en tant que document officiel du Conseil de Sécurité, le 30 décembre dernier.

Haute Considération,

  
**Mohammed LOULICHKI**  
Ambassadeur, Représentant Permanent



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*Translated from French*

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

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L/No/42/2013

New York, 30 December 2013

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 26 December 2013 from Ms. M'barka Bouaida, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as documents of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*(Signed)* Mohammed **Loulichki**

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon

Secretary-General

United Nations

New York

The Kingdom of Morocco  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation  
Deputy Minister

Sir,

Recently, you received a letter in which Ms. Zuma, the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, “express[ed] appreciation for your support for a visit by your Personal Envoy to Addis Ababa for consultations with the Commission and propose[d] to begin consultations with the parties and keep you informed of the measures taken”.

The Kingdom of Morocco is surprised by this persistent desire to involve the African Union in a negotiation process that has been ongoing for 13 years, a process with which the African Union has never been associated.

As you know, the Kingdom of Morocco has informed you, by means of a message from His Majesty the King, that it opposes any involvement whatsoever on the part of the African Union.

The underlying reasons for Morocco's opposition to involvement by the African Union are related primarily to the historical use of good offices in order to settle this dispute; attempts by the African Union to revive an approach to resolving the dispute that is incompatible with the efforts of the United Nations; and the 1984 withdrawal of the Kingdom of Morocco from the African Union following the admission by the latter of an entity that meets none of the criteria of a sovereign State.

By thus predetermining the outcome of the search for a solution and fully backing the position of Algeria and the Frente Polisario, the African Union has, in effect, excluded itself from the process. The stance of the African Union with regard to the question of the Sahara runs counter to United Nations efforts and can only have a damaging effect on the process under way. Under no circumstances, therefore, can it reinvolve itself against the will of one of the parties to the regional dispute over the Sahara.

His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
New York

Sir,

It should be recalled that in light of the failed Organization of African Unity (OAU) mediation, the United Nations, with the agreement of the parties and in accordance with the wishes of the international community, took full and exclusive responsibility for the quest for a political solution.

For its part, the Security Council, the primary body responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security, has called for the negotiation of a mutually acceptable political solution based on a realistic approach and a spirit of compromise, in accordance with the provisions of Article 36 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Sir,

Today, in the lead-up to the next Summit of the African Union, the Chairperson of the Commission is taking active steps to arrange consultations with you and with the “main international stakeholders” in order to find a role for the African Union in relation to this dispute.

While it recognizes the contribution of the African Union to the resolution of other conflicts or crises in which it has maintained an unbiased position, the Kingdom of Morocco rejects all attempts by the African Union to interfere, given its regrettable lack of neutrality with regard to the dispute over the Moroccan Sahara.

At a time when your Personal Envoy is preparing to revive the negotiation process, taking a new approach, it is important to avoid any confusion or possible pitfalls that could hamper United Nations efforts.

It is with this in mind, Sir, that I wish to assure you of the heartfelt commitment of the Kingdom of Morocco to continuing its positive contribution to the quest for a negotiated political solution to this regional dispute.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*(Signed)* M'barka **Bouaida**

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation