

Dear Mr. Minister:

Thank you for your December 28 letter expressing concern regarding the African Union's engagement on the Western Sahara.

The United States is aware of the African Union's proposal, as well as your government's concerns with African Union involvement on the Western Sahara.

In all of our engagements on this issue, we continue to support the UN's diplomatic process, led by the UN Secretary-General's Personal Envoy for the Western Sahara, Christopher Ross, and mandated by the Security Council.

As President Obama discussed with His Majesty King Mohammed VI during their November meeting, we believe the parties must redouble their efforts to find a political solution that is peaceful, sustainable, and mutually agreeable. This is important for our shared commitment to the improvement of the lives of the people of the Western Sahara.

I look forward to working with you on this and other issues as we continue to work to strengthen the U.S.-Morocco partnership.

I look forward to working with you to carry out the joint commitment of King Mohammed VI and President Obama to increase cooperation and strengthen the U.S.-Morocco partnership.

Sincerely,

/s/

John F. Kerry

His Excellency,
Salaheddine Mezouar,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation,
Rabat.