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LETTER DATED 21 JUNE 1999 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to article 13, paragraph 3, of the statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, which reads as follows:

"In the event of a vacancy in the Chambers, after consultation with the Presidents of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General shall appoint a person meeting the qualifications of paragraph 1 above, for the remainder of the term of office concerned."

In this connection, I should like to recall that Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, a national of the United States of America, has resigned as a judge of the Chambers of the International Tribunal, effective 17 November 1999. (She will, however, continue to sit, until their completion, on any cases to which she has been assigned whose hearing has not been completed by that date).

The Government of the United States of America has presented the candidacy of Ms. Patricia McGowan Wald to replace Judge McDonald. Please find her curriculum vitae attached.

It is my view that Ms. Wald meets the qualifications which are prescribed in article 13, paragraph 1, of the International Tribunal's statute. I also consider that her appointment would be well calculated to ensure adequate representation on the Tribunal of the principal legal systems of the world, as contemplated in article 13, paragraph 2 (c), of the Tribunal's statute.

I should, therefore, like to proceed to consultation with you on the appointment of Ms. Wald, in accordance with article 13, paragraph 3, of the statute of the International Tribunal. I look forward to receiving your views on the matter.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

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