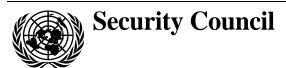
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Letter dated 23 December 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 15 December 2005 (S/2005/794) concerning the extension of the mandate of my Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region. I regret to inform you that the information requested in your letter is unlikely to be available by 31 December 2005, when the current mandate of my Special Representative expires. Therefore, it is my intention to extend the mandate of my Special Representative until 31 March 2006. I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan