

Letters

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JIMMY CARTER

May 3, 1999

To Dr. Cherif Bassiouni

Thank you for sending me an autographed copy of *The Statute of the International Criminal Court: A Documentary History*. Rosalynn and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in remembering us.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

31 August 1998

Dear Professor Bassiouni,

Thank you for your kind letter of 22 July 1998.

I should like to thank you for the untiring efforts which you and your colleagues in the Drafting and General Committees made towards overcoming the legal and political obstacles which confronted the Rome Conference and helping to bring about its successful conclusion.

The adoption of the Rome Statute of an International Criminal Court marks a giant step forward in the march towards universal human rights and the rule of law. You may justifiably be proud of the contribution which you made to the realisation of that important goal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Annan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kofi A. Annan

Professor Cherif Bassiouni
Director, International Criminal Justice and Weapons Control Center
College of Law
De Paul University
Chicago



Le Secrétaire général

N/REF :SG –CAB/AD/da/98-081

Paris, le 5 août 1998

Cher Ami,

J'ai pris connaissance avec un vif intérêt de votre lettre en date du 22 juillet.

Nous avons, en effet, tous suivi avec émotion le rôle essentiel que vous avez joué dans l'adoption du projet de création d'une Cour Criminelle Internationale. Un grand pas vient d'être franchi sur la voie de l'institutionnalisation du droit international.

Le succès que vous avez remporté, à cette occasion, n'est que le juste retour de longues années de recherche et de réflexion.

Je tenais donc à vous féliciter pour le travail considérable et précieux que vous avez accompli, et à vous dire combien je partage votre enthousiasme et les espoirs que vous fondez sur cette nouvelle Institution.

Je vous prie de croire, cher Ami, en mes sentiments bien cordiaux.

مخلص الا

*et c'est un plaisir et
probablement un honneur*

Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Boutros Boutros-Ghali

Mr. Cherif Bassiouni
Professor of Law
Director, ICJ&WC Center
DePaul University
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25 East Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-2287



THE PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

August 13, 1998

Professor M Cherif Bassiouni
Professor of Law
Director, International Criminal Justice
and Weapons Control Centre
DePaul University
College of Law
25 East Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois, 60604-2287.

Dear Professor Bassiouni,

I was delighted to receive your letter of July 20, 1998.

I fully agree that the establishment of the International Criminal Court is indeed an extraordinary accomplishment. I received the good news on Saturday July 18, 1998, shortly before departing for London for further medical investigations. Needless to say, I was overjoyed and was consumed with a feeling of pride for the part I, together with my colleagues of Parliamentarians for Global Action, played in bringing this Body into existence.

The introductory words of your speech at the Ceremony for the Opening for Signature of the Treaty is certainly a truism - "The world will never be the same after the establishment of the International Criminal Court." Nevertheless, it is necessary to remind those who placed obstacles in our path of the effect this institution will have on world order, world peace and security. I deeply appreciate receiving the copy of your Statement which I thought, both eloquent and concise while covering broad parameters. I thank you also, for the copy of the Preamble of the Draft Statute.

The task of the Drafting Committee was indeed monumental. There could have been no better qualified person than your good self to have functioned in the capacity of Chairman of that Committee. I am sure that your guidance played a considerable part in contributing to the successful result of the Diplomatic Conference.

My one regret is that I could not have been present for this momentous occasion. However, I was certainly there, in spirit.

I look forward to continuing our deep friendship.

With warmest personal regards,

Arthur N R. Robinson

Arthur N R Robinson
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Robinson

Royal Palace
Amman, Jordan

23 July, 1998

Dear Cherif.

Please accept my warmest congratulations for the wonderful results of the Rome conference, and for your inspiring role in chairing the Drafting Committee. Your untiring efforts over the past thirty-five years have been rewarded by the extraordinary support shown by the international community in voting overwhelmingly for the adoption of the ICC statute on 17th. July, 1998.

As you know, Jordan was a vocal and determined member of the "Like-Minded" group at the Rome conference. Our general position was grounded in the belief that only a fair, independent and strong court could serve the cause of justice; anything less would have been utterly counterproductive and unacceptable to us. We were also very proud to have chaired successfully the co-ordinating group on "Crimes Against Humanity".

We were, nevertheless, somewhat disappointed both by the addition of a transitional provision for War Crimes and by the last-minute change to the pre-conditions for the exercise of jurisdiction, whereupon a more restrictive approach was favoured. These concessions to political expediency were perhaps inevitable in the context of the difficult negotiations that took place, although I am also reminded of the remark once made by Daniel O'Connell, the early eighteenth century Irish statesman, who noted that, "Nothing is politically right, which is morally wrong".

Moreover, the general approach adopted by our Arab brethren, crowned by the fact that four out of the seven states who voted against the statute were from the Arab world (the other three being Israel, the US and China), was saddening. I hope that, in the future, we will be able to persuade some of our brothers to assume a more accommodating outlook with respect to the ICC, now that the statute itself has been adopted.

Again, I applaud you for the enormous effort you invested personally into the establishment of the ICC, and I hope that we will be able to meet again some time soon.

Yours truly,

El Hassan bin Tatal

El Hassan bin Tatal

Professor M. Cherif Bassiouni
DePaul College of Law
Chicago

August 12, 1998.

Dear Professor Bassiouni:

I want to congratulate you for your dynamic and proficient participation at the United Nations Diplomatic Conference on the Treaty for the establishment of a permanent international criminal court and for the remarkable results achieved in Rome.

Your unanimous election as Chairman of the Drafting Committee by the 162 participating States constitutes a clear evidence of your international prestige and the high quality of your contribution to the Conference.

.../...

Professor M. Cherif Bassiouni

International Criminal Justice and Weapons Control Center
College of Law
Chicago, Illinois

As you so eloquently stated at the ceremony for the opening for signature of the Convention "the world will never be the same after the establishment of the international criminal court". I do agree with you and I hope that all the participating States will soon sign the treaty in order to expedite the procedures for its coming into force in the near future. As for Cape Verde the only reason why the treaty was not signed at the opening ceremony was because for unforeseen reasons our plenipotentiary could not reach Rome in time. I will make sure that all measures will be taken to hasten the signature.

We share the fundamental values and expectations underlying the negotiations. I believe that the international community can no longer tolerate that crimes against humanity continue to go unpunished. The establishment of a system of international criminal justice will give a great contribution for Peace, Justice and Security for all.

Please accept, Professor Bassiouni, the assurances of my friendship and high esteem.

Sincerely yours,



António Mascarenhas Monteiro
President of the Republic of Cape Verde

