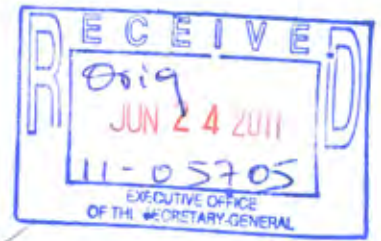


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Note to the Deputy Secretary-General

Gift offer from the Organization of Sri Chinmoy

I refer to a letter dated 10 June 2011, signed by Nilima Silver on behalf of an organization associated with Sri Chinmoy, under their official name: "The Peace Meditation at the United Nations."

Since 15 January 2007, the United Nations has been under a moratorium on gifts for UN Headquarters until the completion of the CMP, presently estimated for the end of 2014. During this period, we have received several offers of gifts to the United Nations that we have turned down due to the moratorium.

Furthermore, it is UN policy to accept gifts only from Member States, not from private donors. In order to treat all the Member States in the same manner, I recommend postponing this offer until the completion of the CMP, at which time it should be proposed through a Member State.

Please find attached a draft letter for the signature of the Chef de Cabinet in response to this offer.

Please also note that the Office of Legal Affairs has advised that they are considering raising the issue of organization's official name "The Peace Meditation at the United Nations" and the use of the UN logo, for internal discussion..

(11) MA

Angela Kane
23 June 2011



PRT108/002

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE:

23 June 2011

Dear Ms. Silver,

I am writing in response to your letter dated 10 June 2011 in which you kindly offer the donation of a **painting** from Sri Chinmoy to the United Nations.

While we **greatly** appreciate your thoughtfulness, I regret to inform you that we cannot accept any **gifts** at this time. As you may be aware, the Capital Master Plan (CMP) renovation **project** has been launched at the United Nations Headquarters, as a result of which all existing **gifts** donated by Member States have been temporarily removed from display. **Furthermore**, in preparation for the CMP project, the United Nations has initiated a moratorium on **gifts** for UN Headquarters and has requested that Member States postpone offering any new gifts until the completion of the CMP, presently estimated for the end of 2014.

I should **also** advise you that it is UN policy to accept gifts only from Member States, not from private **donors**. In this regard, should this offer be renewed upon completion of the CMP project, the gift proposal would have to be made through a Member State.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued interest in the United Nations.

Your sincerely,

Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

Ms. Nilima Silver
Organization of Sri Chinmoy
New York