## Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 21, 2005

Ambassador John Bolton United States Mission to the United Nations 140 East 45th Street New York, N.Y. 10017

## Ambassador Bolton:

In the next two weeks, the United Nations will vote on its biennium budget. This vote represents a unique opportunity for Congress, on behalf of the American people, to promote fundamental accountability reforms as an integral part of the UN governing and budgetary process. The Administration's approach of deferring the final biennium budget decisions so that certain reforms can be implemented and thereby reflected in the 2-year budget is a prudent course of action.

The case for essential reform of the United Nations is readily apparent. Just in the past three years alone:

- The "Oil for Food" program has resulted in an ongoing multi-billion dollar scandal that reaches up to the highest levels of the UN structure;
- UN peacekeepers stationed to maintain order and civility have been found guilty of raping the very refugees they were sent to protect;
- Egregious discrimination against Israel, including the exclusion of Israel from full and equal participatory rights in a UN regional group, and the removal of Israel from a map in a major UN meeting November 29, 2005;
- The world's worst human rights violators still sit on the UN's Human Rights Commission and pass judgment on democracies;
- The UN has failed to take strong action to stop the genocide in the Sudan despite countless days of debate.

As a matter of principle, the UN must abide by the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. It should be the honest arbiter of debates and disputes. But in recent years it has repeatedly failed. Fundamental reforms must be made in order for the UN to repair its tarnished image and more importantly to fulfill its charter goals. These reforms are called for in the House-passed "Henry J. Hyde UN Reform Act of 2005" (HR 2745). This bill offers a sound blueprint for action. Alternatively, failure to enact and implement reforms should have serious financial ramifications. For the UN to reestablish its proper role in the international community, the following reforms are immediately needed and must be implemented:

- Financial accountability, so that UN diplomats, bureaucrats and despotic regimes cannot pad their pockets with millions of dollars in aid and contributions given by member states in good faith for the betterment of the world community;
- The abolition of the UN Human Rights Commission and its replacement by a genuinely reformed Human Rights Council, to insure that dictatorial governments do not sit in judgment of functioning democracies;
- An end to the egregious discrimination against Israel and an abolition of the UN bodies that drive that discriminatory treatment;
- A convention and definition of terrorism, so that the world community can achieve higher levels of active anti-terror enforcement;
- A review of UN mandates and programs that are often duplicative and irrelevant with the goal of eliminating wasteful programs and mismanagement.

Therefore, to insure that UN reforms do in fact take place, we jointly call on you to vote against any budgetary matter unless and until these reforms are also accepted. It is not our desire to withhold funding. On the contrary, as a nation that contributes more than a billion dollars in taxpayer funding to the UN's budgets, we seek to insure that our UN funding is more effectively spent by an institution that more effectively promotes democracy and protects human rights across the globe.

Sincerely,

Mark Steven Kirk

Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Member of Congress

Honry Hyde

Member of Congress

Dan Burton

Member of Congress

Virginia Foxx

Member of Congress

Mark Kennedy

Member of Congress

Mke Pence

Member of Congress

Phil English Member of Congress Thaddeus McCotter

Member of Congress

Jim Gerlach Member of Congress

Member of Congress

John Doolittle Member of Congress

Peter King Member of Congress

Joseph Pitts Member of Congress

Dana Rohrabacher Member of Congress

Scott Garrett

Member of Congress

Michael McCaul Member of Congress

Roscoe Bartlett Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Steve King Member of Congress

Mark Green Member of Congre

Jo Ann Davis Member of Congress

Melissa Hart Member of Congress