

**Security Council**

Distr.: General  
25 April 2003

Original: English

---

**Letter dated 24 April 2003 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to write to you regarding the temporary adjustments that were made to the oil-for-food programme in terms of Security Council resolution 1472 (2003) and to request more information related to the programme.

I am contacting you on behalf of the South African companies that hold contracts under the oil-for-food programme, we welcome the information that has been provided on the supply of priority goods pursuant to resolution 1472 (2003). Our request for clarification from the Security Council relates mainly to goods that were not identified as priority goods, but were already deemed eligible for payment. Among our concerns are the following issues:

- The status of approved contracts for non-priority goods that are funded
- Contracts that are approved but are still unfunded
- Clarification on the next steps in cases where the letters of credit and approval letters are due to expire in a month or so

We were informed in the briefings conducted by the Secretary-General to regional groups that there may be compensation to companies for losses incurred due to the evacuation of the independent inspection agent from Iraq. Among South African companies, there are suppliers whose goods were en route to Iraq at the time of the evacuation and suppliers who were in the course of manufacturing, sourcing or storing goods for export to Iraq. We would appreciate the Security Council's guidance on how to respond to enquiries from such companies.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**  
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa