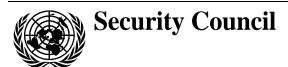
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Letter dated 9 October 2002 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

The mandate of my Special Representative for the Great Lakes region, Mr. Ibrahima Fall, will expire on 31 December 2002. You will recall that I appointed Mr. Fall to that post in July 2002 to succeed Mr. Berhanu Dinka who was appointed as my Special Representative for Burundi (S/2002/719).

Since his appointment, Mr. Fall has pursued consultations on the International Conference on the Great Lakes, building on the efforts of his predecessor, on the basis of the concept paper I had provided to the leaders of the region. Those consulted included the African Union, regional and international organizations and interested and concerned countries. On the basis of those consultations, Mr. Fall will finalize the concept paper and submit to me his assessment and proposals concerning the way forward.

In view of this, it is my intention to extend the mandate of my Special Representative for the Great Lakes region until 31 December 2003. I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan

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