

KURDISTAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
THE PRESIDENT



PARTÎYA DÊMOKRATA KURDISTANÊ  
SEROK

Salahaddin,  
Kurdistan, Iraq

*October 3, 1999*

**His Excellency Kofi Annan  
Secretary General of the United Nations (UN)  
New York, NY 10017, USA**

*Dear Mr. Secretary General,*

Recognizing the suffering and casualties caused to many thousands of innocent and defenseless civilians and especially children, the people of Iraqi Kurdistan support the call for a world-wide ban on the use of anti-personnel mines.

In doing so, we appeal the international community, the United Nations, intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations to assist us in the removal of this, the most serious of man-made problems which obstructs our economic development and reconstruction and inhibits the welfare and return of our displaced people.

In making this appeal we emphasize the importance of the international humanitarian principles and obligations enshrined within the "Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and their Destruction" and commit ourselves to every effort to ensure that they are realized within the context of our own resources.

Please accept our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*M. Barzani*  
Masoud Barzani