

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 31, 2007

The Honorable Zalmay Khalilzad
United States Ambassador to the United Nations
United States Mission to the United Nations
140 East 45th Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Ambassador Khalilzad:

We urge you to investigate the accreditation process of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which is affording accreditation to non-governmental organizations with ties to terrorist organizations.

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) granted the Saudi Arabia-based International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO) consultative status in 1995. Since then, the U.S. Treasury Department designated the Philippine and Indonesian branch offices of IIRO as having financial ties to Al Qaeda. In addition, the United Nations Al Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Committee placed the Philippine and Indonesian branch offices of IIRO on the list of entities belonging to or associated with Al Qaeda. Despite these designations by the Treasury Department and the United Nations, the IIRO continues to receive consultative status by the ECOSOC.

In order to address this issue, we have introduced the United Nations Economic and Social Council Accountability Act of 2007 (H.R. 3348). This legislation would withhold a percentage of U.S. contributions to the United Nations in the amount that would be given to the ECOSOC. These funds would be withheld until the Secretary of State determines that the ECOSOC has withdrawn this consultative status for all entities with affiliations to terrorist organizations, as identified by either the United Nations itself or the U.S. Treasury Department.

We ask that you investigate the UN accreditation of the International Islamic Relief Organization, as well as other non-governmental organizations that receive ECOSOC consultative status and have potential ties to terrorist organizations. It is important that Americans know that their taxpayer dollars are not being used to accredit organizations jeopardizing our security. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jack M. Little

Dan Burton

Sue Myrick

John Barte

Cliff Henry

Ray Sprang

Patricia Whitney

Marilyn Musgrave Co-04

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Violante (VA-7)

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Tom Feeney
(FLA-24)

J. Jordan OH-4

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D. ... TN-01

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Raul Brown

John Shadley

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