

3. 52-12/1998

United Nations  Nations Unies

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

17 February 1998

Dear Mr. Greiz,

Please refer to your letter of 10 January 1998 requesting the Secretary-General to become a "patron" of the "people for people" project, as well as seeking an authorization to use the UN name and emblem in that project. It is noted that your organization, "Pelikán Sportorganization" based in Szolnok (Hungary), is planning for the middle of 1999 a project envisaging that five sportsmen, two of them handicapped, will bike 95 thousand kilometers crossing nearly 100 countries. The purpose of this marathon is "to bring the attention of people of the world through a unique sportsmanship performance to the importance of the fight against drug abuse and of human solidarity."

Please be advised that the use of the United Nations name and emblem is reserved for official purposes of the Organization in accordance with General Assembly resolution 92(I) of 7 December 1946, which also prohibits any use of the United Nations name or emblem for any other purposes without the authorization of the Secretary-General. Since your project is not an official UN one, the use of either of the UN name or the emblem within the project cannot be authorized. Similarly, it is a long-standing policy of the Secretary-General not to accept being a "patron" of non-UN activities.

However, we would have no objections to your use of the UN flag in your project subject to the following conditions.

The use of the UN flag is governed by the United Nations Flag Code and Regulations. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the Code,

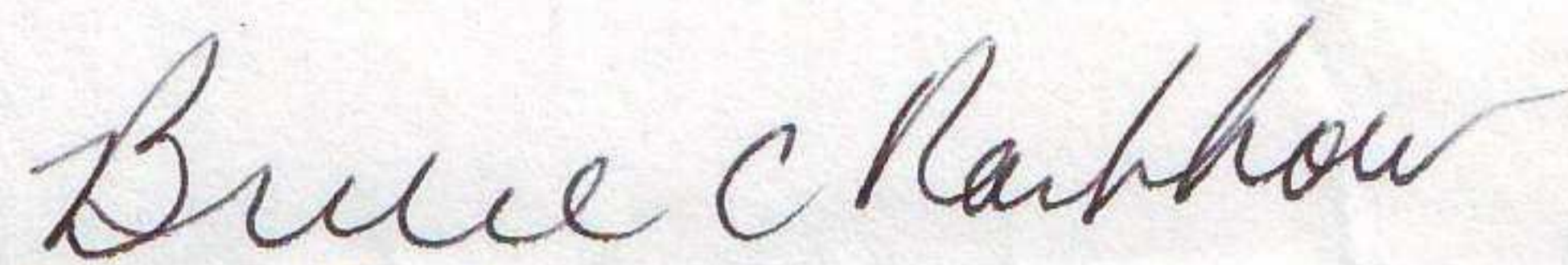
"The flag may be used in accordance with this Flag Code by Governments, organizations and individuals to demonstrate support of the United Nations and to further its principles and purposes".

This provision is reiterated in Section III of the Flag Regulations. In addition, paragraph (b)(iv) of that Section specifically provides that it is deemed especially appropriate that the UN Flag should be displayed "on the occasion of any official event which might or is desired to be related in some way to the United Nations". There are certain established restrictions concerning the use of the UN flag. In particular, paragraph 7 of the Flag Code stipulates that: "The flag shall not be used in any manner inconsistent with this Code or with any regulations made pursuant thereto" and "On

no account shall the flag or replica thereof be used for commercial purposes or in direct association with an article of merchandise.”.

I view of the foregoing, you may wish to use, in your project, the United Nations flag as a demonstration of support for the Organization. If you decide to use it, you are kindly requested to comply with the provisions of the UN Flag Code and Regulations (copy attached).

Sincerely yours,



Bruce C. Rashkow

Director

General Legal Division  
Office of Legal Affairs

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cc: Mr. M. Werner

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NEW YORK 10017



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