

2 June 2008

Tjaco T. Van Den Hout,
Secretary General of the Permanent Court Of Arbitration
THE HAGUE



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

London SW1A 2AH

From the Foreign Secretary

In Secretary General,

Now that your term as the Permanent Court of Arbitration's Secretary-General is drawing to a close, I am writing to express my warm appreciation for the co-operation which we have enjoyed with you and your office over the past nine years.

I welcome the leadership you have shown at the helm of the PCA and the budgetary rigour you have sustained in managing its finances. During your term, the PCA has been an invaluable mechanism for the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

I note that in the past year the demands on PCA services have significantly increased, demonstrating increasing global confidence in the PCA's services. This success can be attributed to you and your team's exemplary work.

I look forward to welcoming your successor Ambassador Kroner. I have no doubt that the British Government will foster as a close working relationship with him as we have with you. We will of course support him in continuing your good work.

Please accept my good wishes for your next posting as Ambassador of The Netherlands to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Burma.

Yours sincerely,

David Miliband

DAVID MILIBAND