

---

---

June 6, 2007

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. President:

We applaud the support of your Administration for the adoption of Resolution 1754 by the United Nations Security Council on April 30, 2007, which incorporates the historic initiative by Morocco to end the conflict in the Western Sahara through direct negotiations. This new direction for solving the crisis is in large part the result of your efforts and encouragement.

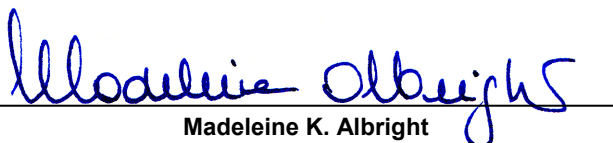
As the first country to officially recognize the United States in 1777, Morocco has been an historic and reliable ally to our great nation, and we encourage you to continue this cooperation in the challenging months ahead as the negotiations are inaugurated.

Recent terrorist attacks in Morocco and Algeria show that we cannot afford to continue to ignore the problems of this region. Failure to resolve this conflict jeopardizes international stability, our fight against terrorism, and economic integration efforts in the region.


By giving the people of the Western Sahara a true voice in their future through the full benefits of autonomy as presented by Morocco, a credible political solution can be achieved. Morocco's commitment merits the support of the international community and we must ensure that its neighbors assume their responsibility for contributing to the success of these negotiations, as called for in UNSC Resolution 1754.

Mr. President, we know that with your encouragement and support Morocco has courageously shown its leadership with this initiative. Your commitment can make possible a solution to this lingering issue and reaffirm our bipartisan support to a realistic and lasting peace in North Africa.

Sincerely,



**Madeleine K. Albright**  
Former United States Secretary of State



**Frank Charles Carlucci III**  
Former United States Secretary of Defense



**Mickey Kantor**  
Former United States Secretary of Commerce and  
Former United States Trade Representative



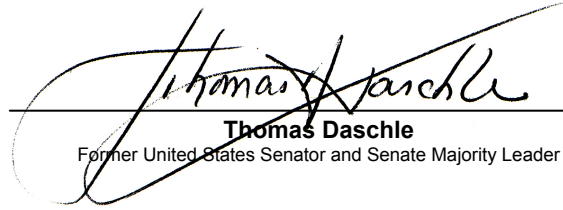
**Hazel R. O'Leary**  
Former United States Secretary of Energy



**Wesley Clark**  
Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander



**Ben Gilman**  
Former Member, United States House of Representatives and  
Chairman, House Committee on International Relations



**Thomas Daschle**  
Former United States Senator and Senate Majority Leader



**Thomas R. Pickering**  
Former United States Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and  
Former United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Russia, India,  
Israel, El Salvador, Nigeria, and Jordan



**Martin Indyk**  
Former Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Near Eastern  
Affairs and Former United States Ambassador to Israel



**Edward S. Walker Jr.**  
Former Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Near Eastern  
Affairs and Former United States Ambassador to Israel, Egypt, and the  
United Arab Emirates



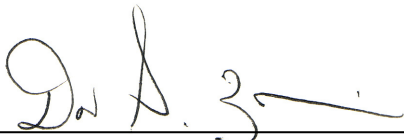
**Thomas Nassif**  
Former United States Ambassador to Morocco and Deputy Assistant  
Secretary of State for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs and  
South and Central Asian Affairs



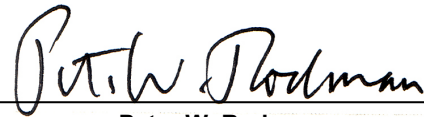
**Michael Ussery**  
Former United States Ambassador to Morocco and Deputy Assistant  
Secretary for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs and South and Central  
Asian Affairs



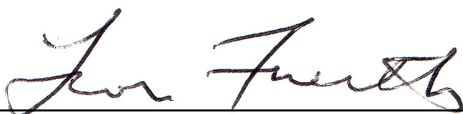
**Frederick Vreeland**  
Former United States Ambassador to Morocco and Deputy Assistant  
Secretary for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs and  
South and Central Asian Affairs



**Dov Zakheim**  
Former Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and  
Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Defense



**Peter W. Rodman**  
Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs



**Leon Fuerth**  
Former National Security Advisor to Vice President Albert A. Gore Jr.