

September 10, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to inform you that the United States Government extends recognition to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. It is our hope, with your agreement, that diplomatic relations can be established between our countries.

We congratulate your leaders and your Portuguese colleagues on the wise statesmanship, patience, and depth of vision they have demonstrated in their negotiations.

In extending the congratulations of my country, I speak for a people who share with the people of Guinea-Bissau the knowledge that hard-won individual liberty and independence can be preserved only by unremitting labor and great sacrifice.

In the coming days we wish to strengthen and multiply our bonds of friendship with the Government and people of Guinea-Bissau. I am confident of a future in which our two peoples shall work together in the cause of freedom, peace and the welfare of mankind.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford