UN human rights chief visits Burma

The landmark visit of Paulo Sergio Pinheiro is the latest in a series of diplomatic efforts by the United Nations to achieve reconciliation between the ruling military and pro-democracy forces in Myanmar in recent years

1989: Pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi detained after military's brutal suppression of uprising

▶ 1998: Peruvian diplomat *Alvaro de Soto* named UN envoy to mediate between regime and opposition

Junta rejects offer of financial incentives for change

➤ 2002: New UN envoy, Malaysian diplomat *Razali Ismail*, helps secure Suu Kyi's release from house arrest ➤ 2003: Suu Kyi put in prison after

clashes between her supporters and government-backed mob

> 2006, Jan: Razali Ismail resigns as

envoy, frustrated at being barred from entering country for nearly two years

May: Nigerian diplomat *Ibrahim*

Gambari becomes first foreigner to meet Suu Kyi in over two years amid renewed talk of "breakthrough"

➤ 2007, Aug-Sep: Fuel price hikes spark wave of public dissent. Buddhist monks hold anti-government rallies.

Military crushes demonstrations

Sep 29: UN envoy Gambari meets Suu Kyi and junta leader *Gen. Than Shwe*. Regime later meets Suu Kyi

Oct: UN Security Council says it "strongly deplores" situation in country

Nov 2: Regime decides to expel top UN diplomat in country *Charles Petrie*

Nov 3: Gambari returns to Burma. Military says it will allow Suu Kyi to meet her party's officials

Nov 11: Pinheiro, banned from Burma since 2003, allowed to visit country where he hopes to determine scope of military crackdown

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