



Helsinki, 26. October 2007

Center for Applied Innovation
and
Partners International Foundation
c/o 214 Terrebonne Road
Yorktown, Virginia 23692

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: PIF implementation of the Healthy Africa Scenario

The Unit for Humanitarian Assistance at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland would like to complement and fully support the Partners International Foundation (PIF) executing its Healthy Africa Scenarios Exercise 2008 (HASE 2008) through its Center for Applied Innovation (CAI). The Unit also wishes to inform that it is making efforts to find government and NGO representatives to participate in the above mentioned exercise. We are convinced that the exercise will be for the mutual benefit of concept development, experimentation, and curriculum that better define the way ahead in future humanitarian responses - in this case those which relate to situations of health - but also in other future humanitarian responses.

We are also convinced that the HASE series starting in 2008 and its follow-on events in subsequent years could carry long-range implications that will positively affect the development of how we must work in the future. The past experience has taught us that the most successful and sustainable interventions are those that considers and build on what is already ongoing in the area of intervention at the field level, attach itself to existing structures (instead of setting up their own duplicate structures), and provide complementry and supplementary services (as opposed to duplicate services or some that may be in competition with existing services).

It has to be noted that the UN System, other International Organizations and NGO's provide 90% of the medical assistance necessary. These are actors that would have been in situ before the (military) intervention and will remain thereafter. These actors have a good deal of information about the situation, what has been done already, and where additional needs are. They work closely with local authorities and communities, and have established networks, and have existing coordination processes in place. The Partners International Foundation and HASE is making remarkable efforts to consider the above mentioned aspects and need therefore to be congratulated.

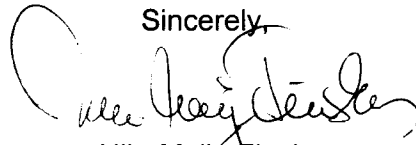
The exercise which is at present beeing developed represents an opportunity for researcher's from Colleges, Universities, and others to partner with other companies, organizations and government agencies. As a humanitarian action must always be led by humanitarian and non-military actors we believe this exercise will have long-range implications and will give an excellent lessons

learned for future activities in this field. The involvement of the UN-system and others which have local knowledge of African situations is of paramount importance

Thus we hope that this exercise will be fully funded now and in the subsequent years to fully optimise the exercise's potential. May we also encourage all other potential government, non-government, private sector and donors to adequately support this endeavor.

The Unit for Humanitarian Assistance at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland looks forward to working with Partners International Foundation and its Centre for Applied Innovation and gives its best wishes for a successful implementation of the HASE 2008.

Sincerely,



Ulla-Maija Finskas
Director,

Unit for Humanitarian Assistance
MFA/Finland