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June 14, 2013

Dear Prof. Temple,

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your appointment as National Coordinator for the ICCIDD Global Network for Papua New Guinea. We expect you will work closely with your Deputy Regional Coordinator, Prof. Gary Ma, to strengthen and expand IDD control efforts in your country and region.

With this appointment, you have become a Voting Member of the ICCIDD Global Network, and the purpose of this letter is to provide you some background information on the organization. The reorganization of the global iodine infrastructure into the ICCIDD Global Network has created a new organization that involves all stakeholders working in the field (including WHO, UNICEF, GAIN, MI, Kiwanis, the salt producers, endocrinologists and nutrition scientists) and facilitates collaboration between these partners at national, regional and global level. This is an exciting opportunity.

We strongly encourage you to participate as a **Voting Member at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the ICCIDD Global Network on June 21, 2013.**

The 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM will be done entirely electronically. On June 21, Friday, you will receive an email from the ICCIDD Global Network Secretariat that will be sent out at noon, European Standard Time.

Please read the instructions in the email carefully and then proceed to the ICCIDD Global Network website. On a secure section of the ICCIDD Global Network website (www.iccidd.org), you will be asked to first review documents and then do the following:

1. Approve the: a) Report of the Board, b) Financial Statements, c) Auditors report
2. Appoint the Auditors for 2014
3. Hold Elections for the Board of Directors

Background of the formation and structure of the ICCIDD Global Network

During 2012, extensive discussions amongst and between the members of ICCIDD and The Network for the Sustained Elimination of IDD culminated in an agreement by both Boards to consolidate the two organizations into a single new entity, the 'ICCIDD Global Network'. The reasons were several. It was felt that two separate entities working toward the same goal could lead to redundancy of efforts and confusion on regional/national guidance. Both organizations recognized that shrinking resources for IDD programs meant the need for improved coordination and efficiency was now particularly acute. Also, it was felt that a new global structure was needed to ensure sustainability of the remarkable achievements of the past two decades.

The ICCIDD Global Network is a Canadian chartered organization and an UN-recognized NGO. The Secretariat of the ICCIDD Global Network will be based in Zurich, Switzerland at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, where Michael Zimmermann (executive Director) and Dr. Maria Andersson (Secretary) are located. Its structure:

- The *Board of Directors* is responsible for the overall policy, strategy and program planning.
- The *Executive Director* (ED) leads in developing budget and programs and directing implementation.
- The *Management Council* consists of the Regional Coordinators and the Officers, and is chaired by the ED.
- The *Regional Coordinators* develop, execute and evaluate work plans and budgets for their regions, in conjunction with the *National Coordinators* in their regions.

***The legally defined voting membership of the organization consists of the Board Directors, the Management Council and the National Coordinators.

Vision, Mission and Goals of the ICCIDD Global Network

Our **vision** is a world where all people attain optimal iodine nutrition and children can reach their full cognitive potential.

Our **mission** is to be the authoritative voice for iodine nutrition. We support and catalyze global and national iodine programs, working with key public, private, academic, and civic stakeholders. We focus on universal salt iodization as the most cost-effective and sustainable solution for prevention of iodine deficiency disorders.

Goals

To support the harmonization of national and international iodine program delivery through alignment of approaches, partnerships and resources

To advocate for political will and increased attention and resources for iodine programs in the context of the broader global nutrition landscape

To identify and help address challenges to iodine programs and thereby accelerate progress towards sustained IDD elimination

To support and strengthen national programs and fortification coalitions through consistent programmatic guidance and enhanced communication to, from and among national programs

To identify and address scientific questions and influence the research agenda in order to increase the effectiveness of iodine programs

2012-2013 Board, ICCIDD Global Network

Acting Chair, Laurence Grummer-Strawn, USA

Treasurer, Daniel Levac, Canada

Secretary, Maria Andersson, Sweden

Francesco Branca, WHO, Switzerland

Gerard Burrow, USA

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Luiz Caetano, Brazil

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Venkatesh Mannar, Micronutrient Initiative, Canada

Qingquo Mao, China

Jessica Tilahun, USA

Arnold Timmer, UNICEF, USA

Stan Soderstrom, Kiwanis, USA

Peter Walker, Canada

Again, congratulations on your appointment and welcome to the ICCIDD Global Network. I am looking forward to working together with you as we move forward in the global effort to bring adequate iodine nutrition to all.



Michael B. Zimmermann, MD