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THE WORLD BANK  
Washington, D.C.

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Washington DC 20433  
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CLAUSEN'S; Special Programme for Training in Tropical Diseases  
Research and

2



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Clausen Papers - Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases -  
Correspondence 02

The two attached letters are examples of a group of 26 letters prepared by WHO for signature by Dr. Mahler of WHO, Brad Morse of UNDP and you. With Mr. Stern's agreement, we signed them in your name on the machine. The letters differ slightly in that one set is directed to those countries/institutions which are already participating in the Training in Tropical Diseases Program, and the other set is being sent to those which have never participated. I have listed the recipients below:

Those already participating

- 1) Margaret Thatcher  
U.K.
- 2) Gustav Husak  
President - Czechoslovakia
- 3) Guillaume de Spoelberch  
General Manager - Aga Khan Foundation
- 4) Erich Honecker  
German Democratic Republic
- 5) Pal Losonczy  
Hungary
- 6) Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad  
Prime Minister - Malaysia
- 7) Prem Tinasulanonda  
Prime Minister - Thailand
- 8) David Russell Lange  
Prime Minister - New Zealand
- 9) Doo-Hwan Chun  
President - Korea
- 10) C.V. Devan Nair  
President - Singapore
- 11) Vojo Srzentic  
President - Yugoslavia
- 12) Patrick Hillery  
President - Ireland
- 13) Muhammadu Buhari  
Head of State - Nigeria
- 14) Dr. Richard von Weizsacker  
President - Fed. Rep. of Germany
- 15) Yasuhiro Nakasone  
Prime Minister - Japan
- 16) Ronald Reagan  
President - U.S.
- 17) Franklin A. Thomas  
President - Ford Foundation
- 18) Dr. Rudolf Kirchschrager  
President - Austria

Those which have never participated

- 1) Dr. R. C. Tress  
Director, The Leverhulme Trust  
U.K.
- 2) Margaret E. Mahoney  
President - The Commonwealth Fund  
N.Y.
- 3) Dr. Robert J. Glaser  
President - The Henry J. Kaiser  
Family Foundation  
California
- 4) Roger W. Heyns  
President - The William & Flora  
Hewlett Foundation  
California
- 5) Dr. David A. Hamburg  
President - Carnegie Corporation  
of New York
- 6) Dr. David E. Rogers  
President - The Robert Wood  
Johnson Foundation  
New Jersey
- 7) Mrs. Vigdis Finnbogadottir  
President - Iceland
- 8) Dr. Beat Schurch  
Director - Nestle Foundation  
Switzerland



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

The Right Honourable  
Margaret Thatcher, M.P.  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern  
Ireland  
10, Downing Street  
London  
United Kingdom

October 31, 1984

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

... The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) - co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization - seeks to develop the means to control six major tropical diseases which today afflict or threaten over one thousand million people living in developing countries. We attach for your information a booklet describing in more detail the work and achievements of the Special Programme.

In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

cc: The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London  
The Secretary, Department of Health and Social Security, Division IRLA, London  
The Right Honourable Robert Leigh-Pemberton, Governor, Bank of England, London  
United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthday, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

The results have been remarkable and research carried out both within and outside the Special Programme has brought about significant progress. Some new tools for disease control have already reached the stage of actual application in the field, while others are close to it. Examples of major developments towards the control of the diseases include:

- A biological agent, Bacillus thuringiensis H-14, to control the flies that spread river blindness is being used extensively in West Africa and is being tested against malaria-carrying mosquitos.
- A new drug, mefloquine, for the treatment of malaria infections resistant to standard therapy has been registered for use.
- Vaccines which may treat and prevent leprosy are in the early stages of testing in man. However, the tests will take five to eight years to complete because of the slow natural history of the disease.
- Simple kits to measure the sensitivity of malaria parasites to drugs to assure the correct choice of treatment are being used widely.

- A simple test to diagnose sleeping sickness (African trypanosomiasis) at the village level, and thus permit early intervention, is ready for widespread application.

Among significant achievements at earlier stages of development are the following:

- Vaccines against malaria are now a real possibility following the identification and production of the substances in the parasite responsible for man's immune reactions against them.
- A totally new family of compounds for the treatment of malaria, based on a traditional Chinese remedy called Qinghaosu, has been synthesized and testing has begun.
- Drugs for the treatment of river blindness, critical for the control of this disease, are being synthesized and tested.
- Natural biological agents are being tested in the field, such as Bacillus sphaericus, which will destroy the larvae of disease-transmitting insects and recycle themselves and in this way prolong their effectiveness.
- Simple and effective diagnostic tests - vital to all disease control programmes - are being developed for Chagas' disease, schistosomiasis, malaria and leprosy.

Scientists and institutions in over 120 countries participate in TDR and provide the vision, knowledge and facilities required for the work. So far, their progress has been outstanding, while the Programme's catalytic effects have kept costs low. In short, we believe TDR to be one of the most cost-effective investments in health and development and one which merits your support. However, bringing a new drug or vaccine from the laboratory to the needy family in the village takes many years of work, and for this TDR requires both adequate and sustained financial support.

... TDR depends entirely upon voluntary contributions. From 1974 until 31 August 1984, 27 governments and 11 other organizations, together with the three co-sponsoring agencies, have contributed over US\$ 155 million to the Programme (see attached table). However, available funds have fallen short of the minimum required (about US\$ 33 million per year) to keep the Programme moving ahead. Unless contributions are increased and sustained, TDR will have to abandon many promising initiatives towards new and effective tools to control the diseases. Malaria, sleeping sickness, river blindness and leprosy will continue to spread and thwart any hope of self reliance for the people living in the tropics.

We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

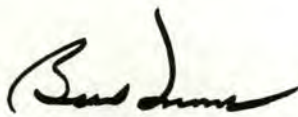
The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of  
Great Britain and Northern Ireland, London

Page 4

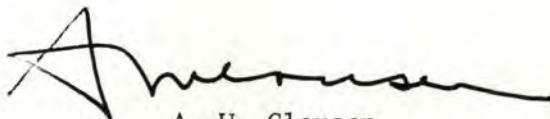
British institutions and scientists are participating actively in the work of TDR, including its scientific management. They have carried out 194 research and development projects at a total cost of US\$ 11 343 000 to the Programme. The United Kingdom is also taking part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board. We are very grateful to the British institutions and scientists for their important participation, and to the Government of the United Kingdom for its financial contributions to TDR which amount to US\$ 5 151 485 up to 31 August 1984. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to consider increasing the level of the United Kingdom's financial support to TDR and to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the increased financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

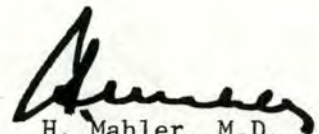
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dr Robert J. Glaser  
President  
The Henry J. Kaiser Family  
Foundation  
525 Middlefield Road  
Suite 200  
Menlo Park  
California 94025

October 31, 1984

Dear Dr Glaser,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

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Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthdays, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

... ENCLS: As stated



The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

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- Simple kits to measure the sensitivity of malaria parasites to drugs to assure the correct choice of treatment are being used widely.
- A simple test to diagnose sleeping sickness (African trypanosomiasis) at the village level, and thus permit early intervention, is ready for widespread application.

Among significant achievements at earlier stages of development are the following:

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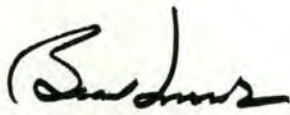
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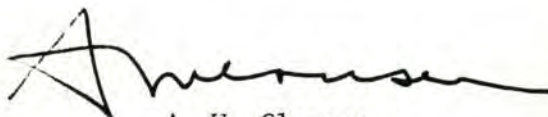
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We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Foundation in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

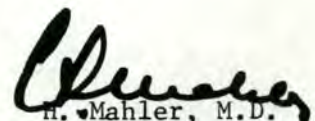
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
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A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Gustáv Husák  
President of the Czechoslovak  
Socialist Republic  
Prague  
Czechoslovakia

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr President,

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cc: The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,  
Prague  
Ministerstvo zdravotnictví České socialistické Republiky, Praha  
Ministerstvo zdravotnictví Slovenské socialistické Republiky,  
Bratislava  
Permanent Mission of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the United  
Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

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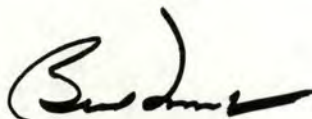
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Czechoslovak institutions and scientists are participating in the work of TDR. They have carried out three research and development projects at a

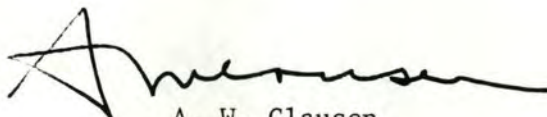
total cost of over US\$ 87 000 to the Programme. We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

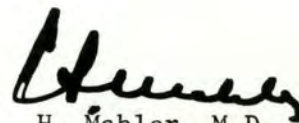
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World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Guillaume de Spoelberch  
General Manager  
Aga Khan Foundation  
P.O. Box  
1211 Geneva 6  
Switzerland

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr de Spoelberch,

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cc: Dr R. G. Wilson, Health Programme Officer, Aga Khan Foundation, Geneva

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Scientists and institutions in over 120 countries participate in TDR and provide the vision, knowledge and facilities required for the work. So far, their progress has been outstanding, while the Programme's catalytic effects have kept costs low. In short, we believe TDR to be one of the most cost-effective investments in health and development and one which merits your support. However, bringing a new drug or vaccine from the laboratory to the needy family in the village takes many years of work, and for this TDR requires both adequate and sustained financial support.

... TDR depends entirely upon voluntary contributions. From 1975 until 31 August 1984, 27 governments and 11 other organizations, together with the three co-sponsoring agencies, have contributed over US\$ 155 million to the Programme (see attached table). However, available funds have fallen short of the minimum required (about US\$ 33 million per year) to keep the Programme moving ahead. Unless contributions are increased and sustained, TDR will have to abandon many promising initiatives towards new and effective tools to control the diseases. Malaria, sleeping sickness, river blindness and leprosy will continue to spread and thwart any hope of self reliance for the people living in the tropics.

We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

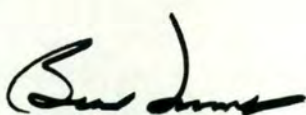
The Aga Khan Foundation is participating in the Special Programme as an official observer to its Joint Coordinating Board and we are grateful to your Foundation for this. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially and in this way to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

Mr Guillaume de Spoelberch, General Manager,  
Aga Khan Foundation, Geneva

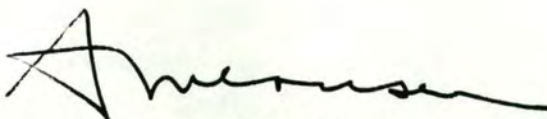
Page 4

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Foundation in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

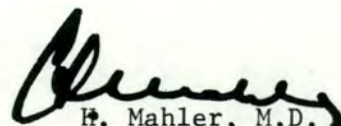
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Erich Honecker  
Chairman of the Council of State  
of the German Democratic Republic  
DDR - Berlin

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr Chairman,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

... The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) - co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization - seeks to develop the means to control six major tropical diseases which today afflict or threaten over one thousand million people living in developing countries. We attach for your information a booklet describing in more detail the work and achievements of the Special Programme.

In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthdays, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Minister of Public Health of the German Democratic Republic, Berlin  
The Head, Department for International Economic Organizations, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, Berlin  
The Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

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Scientists of the German Democratic Republic have participated in the work of TDR and your Government is an official observer to the Programme's

Mr Erich Honecker, Chairman of the Council  
of State of the German Democratic Republic,  
Berlin

Page 4

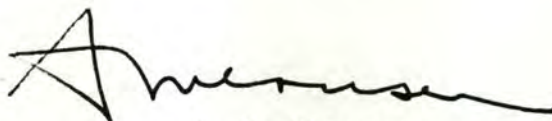
Joint Coordinating Board. We are very grateful to your Government and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

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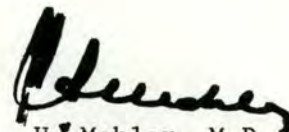
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United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Pál Losonczy  
Chairman of the Presidential Council  
of the Hungarian People's Republic  
Parliament  
Budapest  
Hungary

October 31, 1984

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cc: The Minister of Health of the Hungarian People's Republic, Department for International Relations, Ministry of Health (Egészségügyi Minisztérium), Budapest  
The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic, Department for International Organizations, Budapest  
Mr Miklós Pulai, Deputy President, National Planning Office, Budapest  
The Permanent Representative of the Hungarian People's Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

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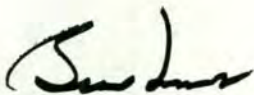
Hungarian institutions and scientists are participating in the work of TDR and have carried out one research and development project. The

Mr Pál Losonczy, Chairman of the Presidential  
Council of the Hungarian People's Republic,  
Parliament, Budapest

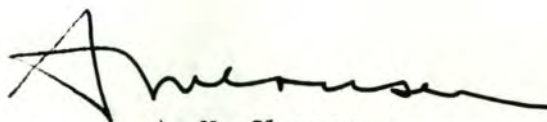
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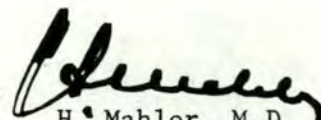
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

The Honourable  
Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad  
Prime Minister of Malaysia  
Kuala Lumpur  
Malaysia

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

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In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthday, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Honourable Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance, Kuala Lumpur  
The Secretary General, Ministry of Health, Kuala Lumpur  
The Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kuala Lumpur  
Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

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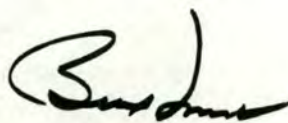
We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

Malaysian institutions and scientists are participating in the work of TDR. They have carried out 22 research and development projects and the

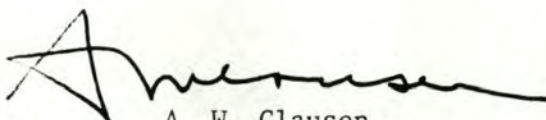
Special Programme has supported 25 training and institution strengthening projects in Malaysia at a total cost of US\$ 1 675 000 to the Programme. Malaysia is also taking an active part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board. We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their important participation. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

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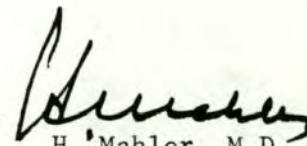
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United Nations  
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A. W. Clausen  
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H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Prem Tinasulanonda  
Prime Minister of the  
Kingdom of Thailand  
Bangkok  
Thailand

October 31, 1984

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cc: The Minister of Public Health, Ministry of Public Health, Bangkok  
The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Bangkok  
His Excellency Sommai Hoontrakool, Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance, Bangkok  
Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Specialized Agencies in Switzerland

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... TDR depends entirely upon voluntary contributions. From 1974 until 31 August 1984, 27 governments and 11 other organizations, together with the three co-sponsoring agencies, have contributed over US\$ 155 million to the Programme (see attached table). However, available funds have fallen short of the minimum required (about US\$ 33 million per year) to keep the Programme moving ahead. Unless contributions are increased and sustained, TDR will have to abandon many promising initiatives towards new and effective tools to control the diseases. Malaria, sleeping sickness, river blindness and leprosy will continue to spread and thwart any hope of self reliance for the people living in the tropics.

We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

Thai institutions and scientists are participating actively in the work of TDR. They have carried out 50 research and development projects

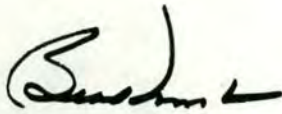
Mr Prem Tinasulanonda, Prime Minister of the  
Kingdom of Thailand, Bangkok

Page 4

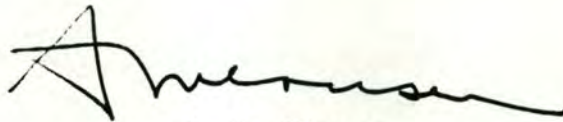
and the Special Programme has supported 47 training and institution strengthening projects in Thailand at a total cost of US\$ 4 459 000 to the Programme. Thailand is also taking part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board and the Seventh Session of the Board took place in Bangkok in June 1984. We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their important participation. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

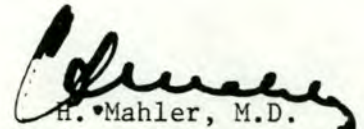
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

The Right Honourable  
David Russell Lange  
Prime Minister of New Zealand  
c/o Parliament House  
Wellington  
New Zealand

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

... The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) - co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization - seeks to develop the means to control six major tropical diseases which today afflict or threaten over one thousand million people living in developing countries. We attach for your information a booklet describing in more detail the work and achievements of the Special Programme.

In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthday, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Wellington  
The Director-General of Health, Department of Health, Wellington  
Mr B. V. Galvin, Secretary to the Treasury, The Treasury, Wellington  
Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations Office at Geneva  
and other International Organizations in Switzerland

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

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Among significant achievements at earlier stages of development are the following:

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We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

Institutions and scientists of New Zealand are participating in the work of TDR. They have carried out three research and development projects and one training course, at a total cost of US\$ 63 000 to the Programme.

We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

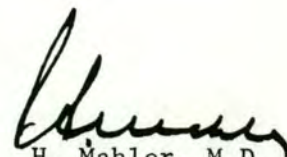
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Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme

A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Doo-Hwan Chun  
President of the Republic of Korea  
Seoul  
Republic of Korea

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr President,

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Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthdays, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Seoul  
The Minister of Health and Social Affairs of the Republic of Korea,  
Shi Heung Kun  
His Excellency Mahn-Je Kim, Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance,  
Seoul  
The Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Korea to International  
Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

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Institutions and scientists of the Republic of Korea are participating in the work of TDR. They have carried out seven research and development

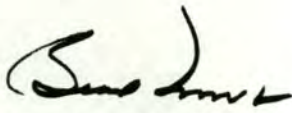
Mr Doo-Hwan Chun, President of the Republic  
of Korea, Seoul

Page 4

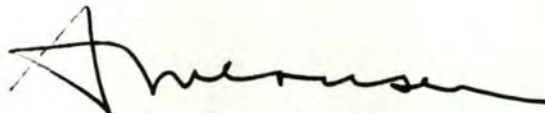
projects at a total cost of US\$ 115 000 to the Programme. The Republic of Korea is also taking an active part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board. We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

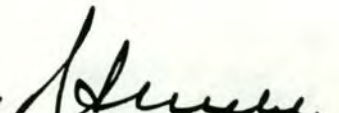
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr C. V. Devan Nair  
President of the Republic  
of Singapore  
Singapore  
Republic of Singapore

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr President,

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In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthdays, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Minister for Health, Singapore  
The Honourable Tony Tan Keng Yam, Minister for Finance, Ministry of Finance, Singapore  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other Specialized Agencies in Switzerland

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

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Singaporean institutions and scientists are participating in the work of TDR. They have carried out eight research and development projects and

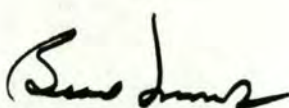
Mr C. V. Devan Nair, President of the Republic  
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Page 4

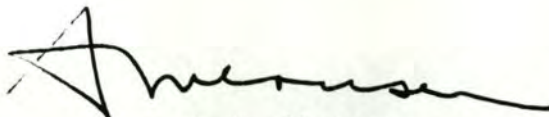
the Special Programme has supported one training project in Singapore at a total cost of US\$ 378 000 to the Programme. We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

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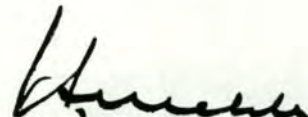
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United Nations  
Development  
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A. W. Clausen  
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The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Vojo Srzentić  
President of the Assembly of the  
Socialist Federal Republic of  
Yugoslavia  
Palata Federacije  
Bulevar Lenjina 2  
11070 Novi Beograd  
Yugoslavia

October 31, 1984

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cc: The Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Belgrade  
His Excellency Vlado Klemencić, Federal Secretary for Finance, Federal Secretariat for Finance, Belgrade  
The Permanent Representative of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Specialized Agencies in Europe  
The President, Federal Committee for Labour, Health and Social Welfare, Novi Beograd

... ENCLS: As stated

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We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

Yugoslav institutions and scientists are participating in the work of TDR and they have carried out one research and development project. We are

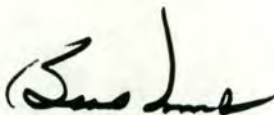
Mr Vojo Srzentić, President of the Assembly  
of the Socialist Federal Republic of  
Yugoslavia, Novi Beograd

Page 4

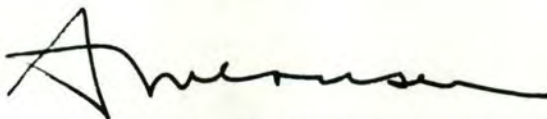
very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

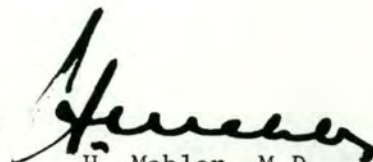
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Patrick Hillery  
President of Ireland  
Dublin  
Ireland

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr President,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

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In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthday, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs of  
Ireland, Dublin  
The Honourable Alan M. Dukes, T.D., Minister for Finance, Department  
of Finance, Dublin  
The Secretary, Department of Health, Dublin  
Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations Office and to the  
Specialized Agencies at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

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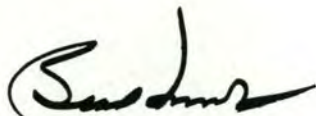
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Dublin

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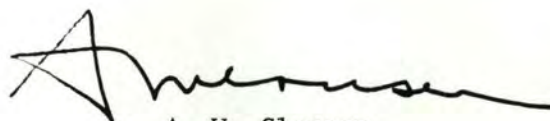
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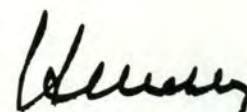
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United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Muhammadu Buhari  
Head of State of the Federal  
Republic of Nigeria  
State House  
Lagos  
Nigeria

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr Buhari,

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cc: The Minister of Health, Federal Ministry of Health, Lagos  
The Honourable Dr Onaolapo Soley, Federal Minister of Finance, Lagos  
Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations Office and the International Organizations at Geneva

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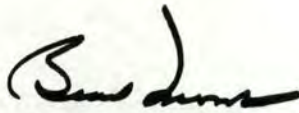
We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

Nigerian institutions and scientists are participating actively in the work of TDR. They have carried out 17 research and development projects

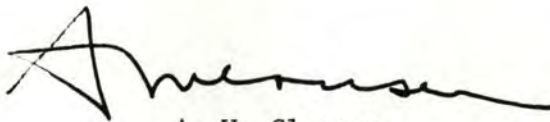
and the Special Programme has supported 56 training and institution strengthening projects in Nigeria at a total cost of US\$ 3 805 000 to the Programme. Nigeria has also taken part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board in 1978 and 1979 and again from 1981 - 1983. The Government of Nigeria is currently an official observer to the Board. We are very grateful to the Nigerian institutions and scientists for their important participation, and to the Government of Nigeria for its financial contributions to TDR of US\$ 421 389 up to 1981. We were pleased to receive in August 1983 your Government's pledge of further financial contributions to the Programme in the amount of 50 000 Naira annually for five years starting from 1982. In view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to continue and to consider increasing the level of Nigeria's financial support to TDR and to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the increased financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

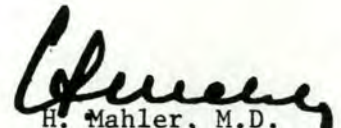
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone  
Prime Minister of Japan  
Tokyo  
Japan

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr Prime Minister,

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cc: The Minister of Health and Welfare, Ministry of Health and Welfare,  
Japanese Government, Tokyo  
The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ministry for Foreign  
Affairs, Tokyo  
His Excellency Noboru Takeshita, Minister of Finance, Ministry of  
Finance, Tokyo  
The Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations Office and  
to the International Organizations at Geneva

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Japanese institutions and scientists are playing an important role in the work of TDR. They have carried out 20 research and development

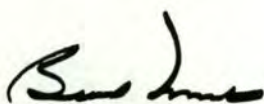
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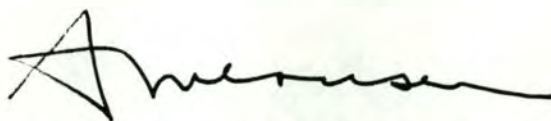
projects at a total cost of US\$ 779 000 to TDR, and are taking part in the scientific management of the Programme. The Government of Japan is an official observer to the Joint Coordinating Board of the Special Programme. We are very grateful to the Japanese institutions and scientists for their important participation, and to the Government of Japan for its financial contributions to TDR which amount to US\$ 300 000 up to 31 August 1984. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to consider increasing the level of Japan's financial support to TDR and to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the increased financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

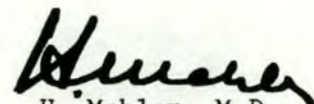
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Programme



A. W. Clausen  
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H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

October 31, 1984

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cc: The Secretary of State, Attention: IO-HNP, Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.  
The Honorable Donald T. Regan, Secretary of the Treasury, Department of  
the Treasury, Washington, D.C.  
The Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human  
Services, Washington, D.C.  
The United States Representative to the United Nations Office and other  
International Organizations at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

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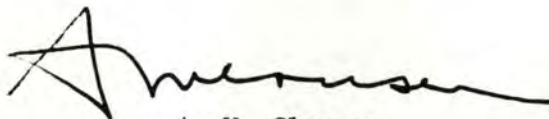
Institutions and scientists of the United States of America are participating actively in the work of TDR, including its scientific management. They have carried out 366 research and development projects and the Special Programme has supported 4 training projects in the United States at a total cost of US\$ 22 540 000 to the Programme. The United States of America is also taking part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board. We are very grateful to the American institutions and scientists for their important participation, and to the Government of the United States of America for its financial contributions to TDR which amount to US\$ 20 403 912 up to 31 August 1984. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to consider increasing the level of your Government's financial support to TDR and to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the increased financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

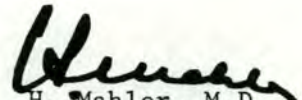
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dr Rudolf Kirchschräger  
President of the Republic of Austria  
Hofburg  
1010 Vienna  
Austria

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr President,

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The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the

cc: The Federal Minister of Health and Environmental Protection,  
Bundesministerium für Gesundheit und Umweltschutz, Vienna  
Seine Exzellenz Dr Herbert Salcher, Bundesminister für Finanzen, Vienna  
The Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations Office  
and the Specialized Agencies at Geneva

... ENCLS: As stated

individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

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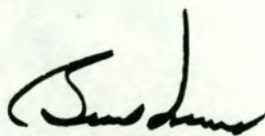
Austria has taken an active part in the management of the Special Programme as a member of its Joint Coordinating Board in 1979 and 1980 and subsequently as an official observer to the Board. We are very grateful to the Government of Austria for its participation and for its financial contributions to TDR which amount to US\$ 536 511 up to 31 August 1984. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to consider increasing the level of Austria's financial support to TDR and to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

Dr Rudolf Kirchschräger, President of the Republic  
of Austria, Vienna

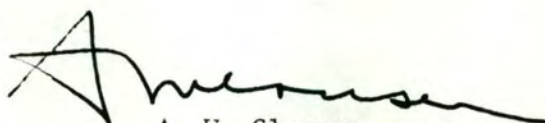
Page 4

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the increased financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

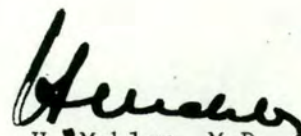
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Franklin A. Thomas  
President  
The Ford Foundation  
320 East 43rd Street  
New York, N.Y. 10017

October 31, 1984

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cc: Mr Oscar Harkavy, Chief Program Officer, Program Division - Urban Poverty Program, The Ford Foundation, New York

... ENCLS: As stated

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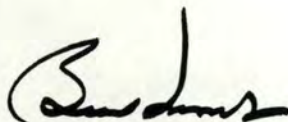
The Ford Foundation is participating in the Special Programme as an official observer to its Joint Coordinating Board and we are grateful to your Foundation for this. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially and in this way to work with us to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

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The Ford Foundation, New York

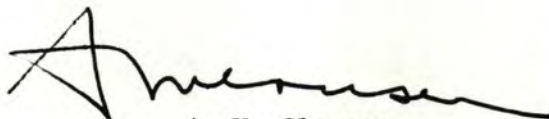
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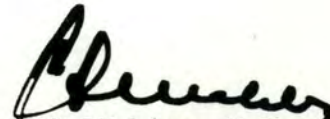
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United Nations  
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A. W. Clausen  
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H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dr R. C. Tress  
Director  
The Leverhulme Trust  
15-19 New Fetter Lane  
London, EC4A 1NR  
United Kingdom

October 31, 1984

Dear Dr Tress,

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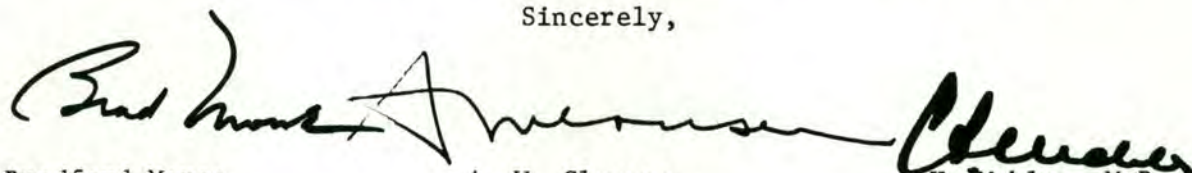
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The World Bank

H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Ms Margaret E. Mahoney  
President  
The Commonwealth Fund  
One East 75th Street  
New York, N.Y. 10021

October 31, 1984

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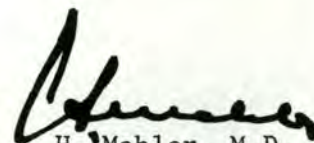
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*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Roger W. Heyns  
President  
The William and Flora Hewlett  
Foundation  
525 Middlefield Road  
Suite 200  
Menlo Park  
California 94025

October 31, 1984

Dear Mr Heyns,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

... The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) - co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization - seeks to develop the means to control six major tropical diseases which today afflict or threaten over one thousand million people living in developing countries. We attach for your information a booklet describing in more detail the work and achievements of the Special Programme.

In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthdays, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

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The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past six years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

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- A biological agent, Bacillus thuringiensis H-14, to control the flies that spread river blindness is being used extensively in West Africa and is being tested against malaria-carrying mosquitos.
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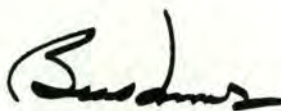
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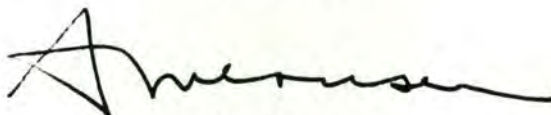
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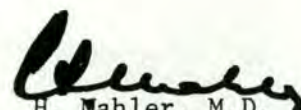
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme



A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dr David A. Hamburg  
President  
Carnegie Corporation of New York  
437 Madison Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

October 31, 1984

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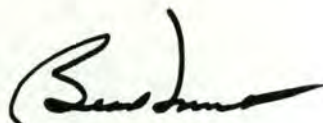
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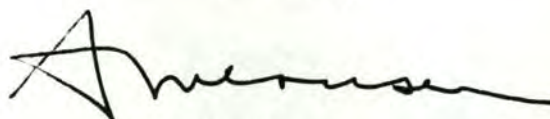
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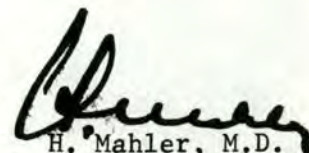
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United Nations  
Development  
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A. W. Clausen  
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The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization



*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dr David E. Rogers  
President  
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
P.O. Box 2316  
Princeton, N.J. 08540

October 31, 1984

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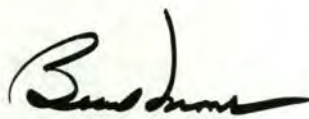
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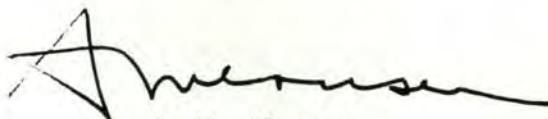
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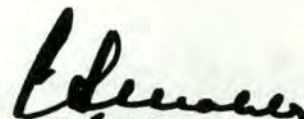
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*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mrs Vigdís Finnbogadóttir  
President of the Republic of Iceland  
Stjornarradshusinu V-Laukjartorg  
101 Reykjavik  
Iceland

October 31, 1984

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cc: The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, Reykjavik  
The Minister of Health and Social Security, Reykjavik  
His Excellency Matthias A. Mathiesen, Minister of Commerce, Ministry of  
Commerce, Reykjavik  
Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations Office at Geneva

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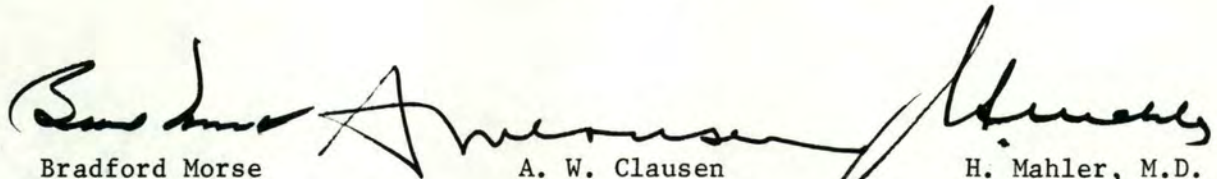
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Sincerely,

Three handwritten signatures in black ink are arranged horizontally. The first signature on the left is for Bradford Morse, the middle one is for A. W. Clausen, and the one on the right is for H. Mahler. The signatures are fluid and cursive.

Bradford Morse  
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United Nations  
Development  
Programme

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*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Dr Beat Schürch  
Director  
Nestlé Foundation  
B.P. 1051  
1001 Lausanne  
Switzerland

October 31, 1984

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Scientists and institutions in over 120 countries participate in TDR and provide the vision, knowledge and facilities required for the work. So far, their progress has been outstanding, while the Programme's catalytic effects have kept costs low. In short, we believe TDR to be one of the most cost-effective investments in health and development and one which merits your support. However, bringing a new drug or vaccine from the laboratory to the needy family in the village takes many years of work, and for this TDR requires both adequate and sustained financial support.

... TDR depends entirely upon voluntary contributions. From 1975 until 31 August 1984, 27 governments and 11 other organizations, together with the three co-sponsoring agencies, have contributed over US\$ 155 million to the Programme (see attached table). However, available funds have fallen short of the minimum required (about US\$ 33 million per year) to keep the Programme moving ahead. Unless contributions are increased and sustained, TDR will have to abandon many promising initiatives towards new and effective tools to control the diseases. Malaria, sleeping sickness, river blindness and leprosy will continue to spread and thwart any hope of self reliance for the people living in the tropics.

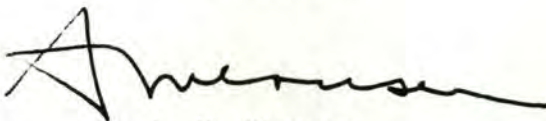
We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Foundation in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

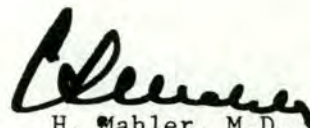
Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
Programme

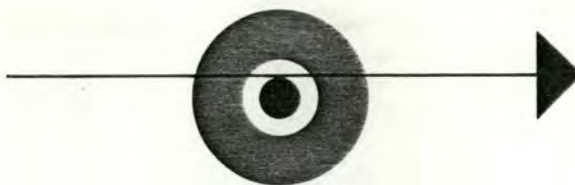


A. W. Clausen  
President,  
The World Bank



H. Mahler, M.D.  
Director-General,  
World Health  
Organization





*special programme for research and training in tropical diseases*

The World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

Mr Sayed Ali Khamenei  
President of the Islamic Republic  
of Iran  
Teheran  
Islamic Republic of Iran

January 23, 1985

Dear Mr President,

We take the liberty of soliciting your support for a unique venture in international collaboration. This venture in research and development is an investment in the future of mankind and will require years of work and sustained financial support. However, we are convinced that the results will have a profound impact on the health and well-being of humanity.

... The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) - co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization - seeks to develop the means to control six major tropical diseases which today afflict or threaten over one thousand million people living in developing countries. We attach for your information a booklet describing in more detail the work and achievements of the Special Programme.

In spite of the explosive growth of knowledge in the biological sciences over the past 30 years, little progress has been made towards the control of these diseases. In fact the menace is increasing.

Millions of children die from malaria before reaching their fifth birthday, and millions of those who reach adulthood are incapacitated by one or more tropical infections. They are sentenced to spend their lives on the treadmill of illness and poverty with no hope of improving the lot of their families or their communities.

cc: The Minister of Health, Ministry of Health, International Health Relations Department, Teheran  
Monsieur le Ministre des Affaires étrangères de la République islamique d'Iran, Téhéran  
His Excellency Dr Hossein Namazi, Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, Teheran  
Mission permanente de la République islamique d'Iran auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations internationales à Genève

... ENCLS: As stated

The devastating blow, to the individual and the family, of an acute attack of malaria at harvest time or of permanent loss of sight by the age of 25 from river blindness (onchocerciasis) is easy to understand. However, the social and economic impacts upon a community and a country when tropical diseases strike down hundreds of thousands of people, go far beyond the individual or gross statistics. In fact, epidemics of malaria, sleeping sickness and river blindness often drive self-sufficient communities into states of dependent poverty.

The destructive symbiosis of disease and poverty must, and can be replaced by the synergism of health and productivity. To bring this about, the tropical countries require both the tools for prevention and treatment of the tropical diseases and the scientific and technical capabilities to assure their effective application. These are the goals of TDR.

Over the past seven years, TDR has challenged and stimulated researchers at institutions throughout the world to work together toward these ends. Thousands of scientists in universities, research institutions, government ministries and industry have responded and are now working as members of TDR teams - in fundamental research laboratories, in hospital clinics and in village health centres - to build the new tools and prepare them for use in the villages of the tropics. TDR has catalysed the linking of research activities into an effective worldwide network and has focused the new methods and knowledge of the biological sciences upon the tropical diseases.

The results have been remarkable and research carried out both within and outside the Special Programme has brought about significant progress. Some new tools for disease control have already reached the stage of actual application in the field, while others are close to it. Examples of major developments towards the control of the diseases include:

- A biological agent, Bacillus thuringiensis H-14, to control the flies that spread river blindness is being used extensively in West Africa and is being tested against malaria-carrying mosquitos.
- A new drug, mefloquine, for the treatment of malaria infections resistant to standard therapy has been registered for use.
- Vaccines which may treat and prevent leprosy are in the early stages of testing in man. However, the tests will take five to eight years to complete because of the slow natural history of the disease.
- Simple kits to measure the sensitivity of malaria parasites to drugs to assure the correct choice of treatment are being used widely.
- A simple test to diagnose sleeping sickness (African trypanosomiasis) at the village level, and thus permit early intervention, is ready for widespread application.

Among significant achievements at earlier stages of development are the following:

- Vaccines against malaria are now a real possibility following the identification and production of the substances in the parasite responsible for man's immune reactions against them.
- A totally new family of compounds for the treatment of malaria, based on a traditional Chinese remedy called Qinghaosu, has been synthesized and testing has begun.
- Drugs for the treatment of river blindness, critical for the control of this disease, are being synthesized and tested.
- Natural biological agents are being tested in the field, such as Bacillus sphaericus, which will destroy the larvae of disease-transmitting insects and recycle themselves and in this way prolong their effectiveness.
- Simple and effective diagnostic tests - vital to all disease control programmes - are being developed for Chagas' disease, schistosomiasis, malaria and leprosy.

Scientists and institutions in over 120 countries participate in TDR and provide the vision, knowledge and facilities required for the work. So far, their progress has been outstanding, while the Programme's catalytic effects have kept costs low. In short, we believe TDR to be one of the most cost-effective investments in health and development and one which merits your support. However, bringing a new drug or vaccine from the laboratory to the needy family in the village takes many years of work, and for this TDR requires both adequate and sustained financial support.

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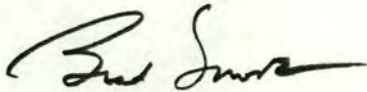
We are convinced that the partnership of modern science and the Special Programme can go far to break the cycle of disease and poverty. Scientists from both the public and private sectors are already doing their part and it is now up to governments and agencies to provide TDR with the funds necessary to complete the work.

Iranian institutions and scientists are participating in the work of TDR, including its scientific management. They have carried out one

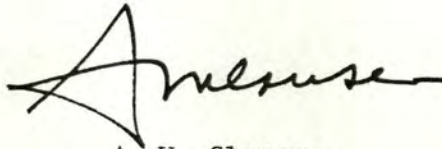
research and development project and the Special Programme has supported the training of an Iranian scientist. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is an official observer to the Joint Coordinating Board of the Special Programme. We are very grateful to your Government, its institutions and scientists for their participation and we hope it will increase. However, in view of the tasks to be accomplished and the opportunities before us, we are asking you to support TDR financially as well as technically and in this way to work with us at all levels of the Programme to transform the opportunities of today into the new drugs and vaccines of tomorrow.

We sincerely hope that you will give serious consideration to our request for the financial participation of your Government in the Special Programme and look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. We should be grateful if you would send your reply to Dr Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization.

Sincerely,



Bradford Morse  
Administrator,  
United Nations  
Development  
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