

United Nations  Nations Unies  
Office of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery

October 10, 2005

Dr. Elizabeth Ferris  
Chair of the Executive Committee  
International Council of Voluntary Agencies  
26-28 Avenue Giuseppe-Motta  
1202 Geneva  
SWITZERLAND

Dear Elizabeth:

I want to express my gratitude for all the assistance from the International Council of Voluntary Agencies to tsunami-affected countries. The help was invaluable to the region, and I would like your support and involvement in an important initiative to promote accountability in the recovery process.

In the aftermath of the tsunami, governments, international organizations and NGOs provided unprecedented levels of assistance to meet relief, recovery and reconstruction requirements. This outpouring of support has created a substantial management challenge for national governments as they seek to monitor and coordinate recovery assistance they have received.

In response to this challenge, and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Governments of Indonesia, the Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand are each developing a "Development Assistance Database" (DAD) to register tsunami recovery resources and results. DAD systems are now operating in Sri Lanka, Maldives and Thailand, under the guidance and leadership of the respective governments. A system is also under development for Aceh-Nias, with the active support of the Government of Indonesia. Over time, all of the systems will be accessible, online, to the general public.

I am convinced that the DAD will greatly facilitate our collective efforts to enhance transparency and accountability, as well as to ensure greater coherence in the recovery process. For this reason, I would sincerely appreciate your continued and active support for this new system, as well as your efforts to ensure that contributions from your organization are effectively incorporated into the DAD in each of the participating countries.

Should you or your staff require any additional information on participation in this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

All the best to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian C. C. C. C." with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.