

23 December 2008

Your Majesty,


I was very pleased to see you last month at the United Nations. The High Level Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue that you proposed and led was most successful and of great importance. I hope to see this initiative continue and grow.

It was also deeply gratifying to hear that you will join the ranks of the major national donors to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. As you know, this effort has been carried out for the last twenty years under the general aegis of the United Nations, with the leadership of the World Health Organization. We are seeking to hasten the end of this noble endeavor, and the generous Saudi gift of US\$ 30 million will be a major factor in moving the end date forward, thus saving thousands more children in the world from the crippling, and sometimes deadly, effects of this dread disease.

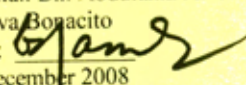
The United Nations Foundation (UNF) can help facilitate the Kingdom's gift. As you know, UNF has been a partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative over the past ten years and supports the work of the United Nations by acting as a partnership builder and a fiduciary agent to bring funds to the Organization and its member agencies.

On behalf of all who have been working to eliminate polio from the face of the earth, I am grateful to you for assuming a leadership role in the last phase of this enterprise.

Please accept, Your Majesty, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN Ki-moon

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques
King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud
King of Saudi Arabia and Prime Minister
of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Riyadh

King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud
Drafter: Silva Bonacito
Authorized: 
Date: 23 December 2008