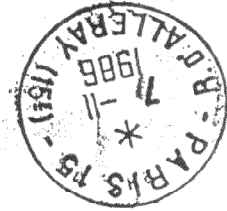


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PROFESSOR RAYMOND DEDONDER
INSTITUT PASTEUR
28 RUE DU DOCTEUR ROUX
75724 PARIS CEDEX 15 FRANCE / PARIS 15

THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500



DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

AS SCIENTISTS WHO HAVE COLLEAGUES AND GOOD FRIENDS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, AND THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE, WE HAVE FOLLOWED WITH CONCERN THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE ARISEN BETWEEN HHS AND THE NIH ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE ON THE OTHER, RELATING TO THE AIDS VIRUS.

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED TO US THAT IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS THESE INSTITUTIONS HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES SEPARATING THEM. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE APPEAR TO BE A FEW REMAINING ISSUES, WHICH THE PARTIES HAVE FOUND DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE.

GIVEN THE GRAVE CRISIS WHICH AIDS PRESENTS, IT DOES NOT BEFIT THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY TO BE ENGAGED IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A SELF-SERVING DISPUTE. IN ORDER, THEREFORE, TO MAINTAIN THE SOLIDARITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONALLY, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT SOME RESOLUTION OF THE REMAINING ISSUES BE ACHIEVED PROMPTLY.

WE URGE YOU TO BRING THE POWER OF YOUR OFFICE, YOUR WISDOM, AND YOUR HUMANITY TO BEAR IN HELPING TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION.

THE ONE THOUGHT WHICH HAS OCCURRED TO US, WITHOUT PREFERENCE OR PREJUDICE, IS THAT A SPEEDY ARBITRATION MIGHT VERY WELL BE THE VEHICLE THROUGH WHICH THE REMAINING PROBLEMS CAN BE RESOLVED.

ARBITRATION, IF AGREED TO, WOULD FACILITATE CONTINUING COOPERATION AND A UNIFIED ATTACK ON AIDS BY THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY.

WE ARE PREPARED TO ASSIST IN ANY MANNER YOU SHOULD DEEM APPROPRIATE.

RESPECTFULLY,

DAVID BALTIMORE
PAUL BERG
RENATO DULBECCO
ROBERT HOLLEY
SALVADOR LURIA
DANIEL BATHAZARD