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Ministry of Welfare

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Reykjavík June 26, 2015

Reference: VEL15060078/20.40.21

Excellency,

The reason for this letter to your Excellency is to ask for your further support of Iceland's endeavour for progress in medical research of the central nervous system in the international area.

In May 2014 the Icelandic Parliament passed a resolution on measures in support of the treatment of spinal cord injuries. In the resolution the Parliament commissions the Government of Iceland to participate in and contribute to the international awakening of awareness concerning neurological disorders and to seek support for having one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals that are to be adopted in 2015, concerned with progress in the treatment of neurological disorders.

Your Excellency received a letter, dated 15th of June, this year from eight Icelandic Organisations of people with neurological disorders supported by 26 thousand Icelanders. The letter kindly asks that your Excellency promotes the request for having one of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, that will be adopted by the UN Summit in September 2015, concerned with progress in the treatment of neurological disorders.

The Permanent Mission of Iceland to the UN now works on mobilizing support from other Member States for the call stemming from the Iceland grass roots regarding the UN Summit in September, as well as on increased international awareness on the issue of neurological disorders. I also want to share with you that the Icelandic Prime Minister has sent a letter to the Nordic Council of Ministers with request for support of this initiative.

Health and well-being in the Post - 2015 agenda is of great importance to all nations. It would benefit the whole world should the UN decide to fight for a better knowledge of the central nervous system, its disorders and injuries. Increased knowledge in this field would make pathways for great progress in treatment, rehabilitation and consequently less disability in the world, as no other system causes greater disablement than the nervous system.

I hope that the final process towards developing the Post-2015 agenda will be successful and that Nations will join hands in agreeing on a prosperous and successful way forward.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Kristján Þór Júlíusson



Federation Internationale De
L'Automobile
Mr. Jean Todt, President of the FIA
8, Place de la Concorde
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Dear Sir,

The participation of the FIA and your engagement and support to increased preventive measures and treatment for the aftermath of traffic accidents is of great importance to Iceland.

As a result of your visit to Iceland in 2011 to promote the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 the Icelandic government decided to put focus on spinal cord injuries in connection with the Decade of Action. Last year an international meeting of doctors and health scientists was held in Iceland to focus on possibilities for a cure of spinal cord injuries. I want to thank the FIA for its participation in the meeting where Ms. Rita Cuypers, Director of Partnership of the FIA, presented the work of the FIA on traffic safety. I would also like to thank the FIA for its cooperation with the UN that has led to the understanding that spinal cord injuries and traffic safety are closely related in the context of the UN, as is manifested in the Secretary General's Synthesis Report on the Post-2015 Agenda, The Road to Dignity by 2030.

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Enclosed is a letter that I have written to the UN Secretary General recently. I would kindly ask if you could review the letter and appraise if you as a UN Special Envoy for Road Safety could see an opportunity to further this cause at the UN.

It is clear from the valuable work of the FIA on prevention of traffic accidents and the important research of the ICM - Brain and Spine Institute, that the FIA runs in Paris, that there is a common interest by the FIA and Iceland to prevent injuries of the nervous system and find a cure for neurological disorders.

Iceland greatly values your support to the prevention and treatment of neurological disorders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, written in a cursive style. The signature appears to read 'Kristján Þór Júlíusson'.

Kristján Þór Júlíusson