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Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia  
Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital



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9th AUGUST 2012

Ms. Margaret McKinnon  
First Assistant Director General  
Africa and Community Programs Division  
Australian Agency for International Development  
GPO Box 887  
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Margaret,

Many thanks for your time with Lucy Perry and Greg Bloomfield last week.

I am writing to inform you on behalf of the trustees of Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia (HFE) that we have resolved not to call on the remainder of the current tranche of AusAID funding, nor to call on future tranches in the current AusAID contract with Hamlin Fistula Australia (HFA). We understand that this will lead to the cancellation of that contract.

Please note that HFE withdrew HFA's authority to represent the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital (AAFH), its five regional centres, the Hamlin College of Midwives (HCM) and myself in May 2012. Since then, HFE has, as you know, created a new corporate structure in Australia to represent its interests and raise funds and awareness for our work. This involved the incorporation of Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia (Australia) Limited (HFE(A)) and the appointment of Lucy Perry as CEO of that company.

We look forward to reapplying for AusAID funding via HFE(A) as soon as that company achieves the appropriate tax status from the ATO.

In the meantime, HFE will be focusing efforts on the appointment of a long-term Chief Executive Officer in Ethiopia as well as key roles within HCM. We will also be working on the full implementation of the Outreach Program, as well as working towards our annual case capacity of 3000. Of great importance to the HFE board of trustees is the development and implementation of a legal structure, which governs the relationship between HFE and its international partners. By the time HFE(A) is legally prepared to make AusAID funding applications, HFE will be in a much better position to meet AusAID requirements on matters of program implementation and corporate governance.

May I take this opportunity to personally thank the team at AusAID for the \$10million in funding that it has granted to HFE over the last decade. These funds have made an enormous difference to the lives of thousands of Ethiopian women and girls and we look forward to re-establishing our relationship with AusAID as soon as possible via our new structure.

Yours sincerely

Dr Catherine Hamlin AC – Founder HFE  
On behalf of the trustees of HFE

CC Peter Duncan-Jones, First Secretary (Development Cooperation), Addis Ababa  
H.E. Lisa Filippetto, Australian Ambassador, Addis Ababa  
Board of Trustees, Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia  
Board of Directors, Hamlin Fistula Australia Limited  
Lucy Perry, CEO, Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia (Australia) Limited