

(REGIO)

From: MORAES Claude <claudio.moraes@europarl.europa.eu>
Sent: 21 March 2014 17:50
To: MORAES Claude (EP)
Subject: INVITATION - Roundtable Event on Children in Adversity - 8th April: 14.30-16.30, A5G315
Attachments: Background Briefing Round Table Lumos Moraes.pdf; Invite Round Table Lumos Moraes.pdf

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to invite you to a roundtable event I am hosting with Lumos in the European Parliament on Tuesday 8th April 2014 from 14.30-16.30 in A5G315.

The roundtable entitled "A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children: How the EU and the USA can join forces to help children in adversity around the world", will be an informal opportunity for policymakers and practitioners to come together to discuss best practices examples and the ways in which we can work together to encourage community based care for children, tailored to their individual needs.

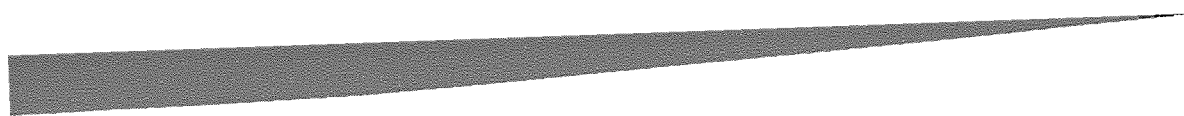
Speakers will include Professor Neil Boothby, Special Adviser on Children in Adversity to US President Obama; Georgette Mulheir, CEO of Lumos and Anna de Geer, CEO of the World Childhood Foundation.

Please find attached to this email a formal invitation and a background briefing. As mentioned, in the invitation please RSVP to rachael.mccallum@europarl.europa.eu

Kind regards,

Claude Moraes

Member of the European Parliament for London





BACKGROUND

A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children: How the EU and the USA can help children in adversity around the world

Round Table
European Parliament (Room A5G315)
14.30 -17.30 Tuesday 8th April
Co-hosted by Claude Moraes MEP and Lumos

About Claude Moraes MEP

Claude Moraes is Labour Member of the European Parliament for London and Deputy Leader of the European Parliamentary Labour Party (EPLP).

First elected to the European Parliament in 1999, Claude was the first Asian origin MEP. He was reelected in 2009 where he led the London list. He is currently Spokesperson for the Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament for Justice and Home Affairs. .

Claude was previously Director of JCWI, the national migration and refugee charity and Chief Executive of the Immigrants' Aid Trust. Before that, he was a national officer at the TUC, a representative to the European TUC in Brussels, House of Commons adviser to MPs John Reid and Paul Boateng and a CRE Commissioner.

With a legal background, Claude has campaigned, written widely and provided regular media commentary on human rights and migration issues including co-authoring the 'Politics of Migration' (Blackwells, 2003) and 'The European Union after the Treaty of Lisbon' (Cambridge University Press, 2012), as well as organising legal test cases in UK and the European Courts.

About Lumos

Lumos is an international NGO¹ working to end the institutionalisation of children around the world. It works to transform education, health and social care systems for children and their families and help children move from institutions to family-based care. We are a founding member of the UNICEF Global Partnership for Children with Disabilities in Development and the European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care². Over the past five years, Lumos has:

- Supported 12,000 children to move from harmful institutions to families or supported independent living;

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² The European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-Based Care (EEG) has produced useful Guidelines and a Toolkit on the use of EU Funds which can be used by the Member States and the European Commission to implement and monitor the reform. www.deinstitutionalisationguide.eu

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To find out more, visit www.wearelumos.org

About the Global Alliance for Children (GAC)

The GAC is a partnership of 7 US government departments (including USAID), the World Bank, the Canadian government, the Swedish government and a range of major international foundations including the World Childhood Foundation. The GAC was established to implement the Action Plan on Children in Adversity that was developed at the request of President Obama. This Action Plan outlines the strategy for the US government's use of overseas aid to help societies' most marginalised children. The plan has three key objectives:

1. Build strong beginnings – put in place programmes and systems that ensure children under five reach their developmental milestones;
2. Put family care first – strengthen systems that support children to live in their families and end institutionalisation of children;
3. Protect children from all forms of violence and abuse.

The GAC is in the process of selecting 6 countries around the world in which to implement the Action Plan as pilot examples. This means that those countries, if they wish to be involved, will receive greater support to implement their reform programmes for children.

To find out more about the GAC and the President's Action Plan for Children in Adversity, visit: www.childreninadversity.org

Institutionalisation

An estimated 8 million children worldwide live in some form of institutionalised residential care, contrary to perceptions, 90% of those children are not orphans. Research from across the world has demonstrated the significant harm caused to children by such institutionalisation.³ The harmful effects include:

- Impaired early brain development, leading to delayed cognitive and physical development and, in some cases, resulting in the onset of an intellectual disability;
- Attachment disorders, which may result in the development of autistic behaviours, self-stimulation, self-harming, aggression to others or cruelty to animals;
- Poor cognitive processing, resulting in educational under-achievement;
- Poor physical health, including chronic infections; Non-organic failure to thrive;
- Unusually raised anxieties, specifically the fear of being abandoned and the fear of being alone, resulting in nightmares and sleeping disorders;
- Eating disorders; Enuresis;
- Difficulty understanding right from wrong, resulting in behaviour such as lying and stealing;
- Difficulties in forming healthy emotional relationships as adults;

³"Deinstitutionalisation – A Human Rights Priority for Children with Disabilities". Georgette Mulheir Equal Rights Review, Volume 9 – 2012

http://www.equalrightstrust.org/ertdocumentbank/err9_full.pdf contains a detailed summary of global research.

- Increased risk of child abuse and neglect; and significantly reduced life chances and, in some cases, life expectancy;
- One study suggests that children brought up in institutional care are 10 times more likely to be victims of prostitution and 500 times more likely to commit suicide;
- Disabled children in institutional care are particularly vulnerable to more severe forms of violence, abuse and poor quality, depersonalised care.

The European Union Response

This year will see the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The events of 1989 exposed one of the most horrific legacies of the communist systems, namely the plight of hundreds of thousands of children living in large institutions across Central and Eastern Europe. Since then, most countries in the region have begun to tackle the issue, but much remains to be done. There is still significant resistance to reform and many countries in the region still believe that some children must live in institutions.

The EU has played a pivotal role in changing attitudes and shifting systems of care and support from institutions to community services. Nevertheless, at the same time, European Union structural funds have in the past been used to renovate and build new institutions. The intentions of this process were good, but failed to understand that institutions cannot provide proper environments in which to raise children. Investments in institution buildings have not resulted in a significant improvement in children's health, development, future life chances and access to rights. For example in Bulgaria in 2007, €140,000 of European Aid funding earmarked for deinstitutionalisation was spent on renovating one institution for children and adults with severe disabilities. In spite of improvements to the building, in 2010, the same institution was the subject of an investigation into high levels of mortality due to malnutrition, which was highlighted in a report of the UN Committee Against Torture. Meanwhile, in one county in the Czech Republic from 2008 – 2012, more than €5.6 million of EU Funds was spent on renovating baby institutions, children's homes and institutions for children and adults with disabilities. In spite of this expenditure, the Czech Ombudsman has since highlighted bad practice and child protection concerns in these institutions.

Since 2009, many partners, including Lumos, have advocated for changes in legislation which would ensure that EU Funds support the reform of the care systems in the Member States and are not used to maintain outdated and harmful institutional models of care. This has resulted in a very major shift in emphasis in how EU structural funds can be used. On 20 November 2013, Universal Children's Day, the European Parliament confirmed new regulations which will mean that countries should use structural funds for deinstitutionalisation and which effectively forbid the use of funds to renovate or build new institutions. This is a welcome precedent that should be extended to the regulations of other funding streams that the European Union uses to support countries elsewhere in the European Region or worldwide. Institutionalisation is harmful to all children anywhere in the world. Europe's overseas development programmes and neighbourhood programmes related to children should all aim to end institutionalisation and should promote the transition from institutional to community based services and supports.

Objective of the Round Table

This Round Table provides an opportunity to share experience and expertise on the international funding of programmes for children. The meeting aims to:

- highlight the major progress which these EU and US initiatives represent;
- explore the need for policy coherence across different funding streams both within Europe and globally and;

- identify how the USA and EU could work together at the global level to further this important human rights issue.

It is hoped that colleagues from the US government, EU structures and NGOs can develop a common agenda aimed at promoting strong beginnings for children, ending institutionalisation and protecting them from harm and abuse.

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www.wearelumos.org



INVITATION

Claude Moraes MEP and International children's NGO Lumos, founded by J K Rowling, are delighted to invite you to a round table discussion at the European Parliament:

**A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children:
How the EU and the USA can join forces to help children in adversity around the world**

Tuesday 8th April

14.30 -16.30

A5G315

A buffet lunch will be served from 13.30

The Round table will be chaired by Claude Moraes MEP. Participants will include: Professor Neil Boothby, who for the past two years has served as Special Adviser on Children in Adversity to US President Obama; Georgette Mulheir, CEO of Lumos and Anna de Geer, CEO of the World Childhood Foundation. Participants are expected from civil society, the European Commission and National Governments.

An estimated 8 million children worldwide live in institutions where they are deprived of appropriate care for their individual needs and are exposed to all forms of abuse and neglect. Now, for the first time, the new Regulations for EU Cohesion Policy include specific commitments that EU funds must be used to support the, "transition from institutional to community-based care". This means that the EU Structural and Investment Funds will not be used to perpetuate institutionalisation, but instead to develop much needed community-based services and ensure full inclusion in the community. This commitment represents major progress, but the harm caused to children by institutionalisation is not only a problem within EU Member States. In many countries across the world, there is a worrying trend of increased institutionalisation. There is a need for all major funders to address this and to ensure that a coherent approach to assistance offered to other countries is followed.

Towards this end, the US Government, together with the governments of Sweden, Canada as well as the World Bank, have launched the Global Alliance for Children. This global initiative intends to help specific countries deliver the President Barack Obama's Action Plan for Children in Adversity. One of its primary objectives is ending the institutionalisation of children.

This Round Table aims:

- To provide an opportunity to share the progress made in the USA and Europe in this field;
- To explore the need for policy coherence across different funding streams both within Europe and globally;
- To explore ways in which the EU and the USA could work together, both at the global level and on the ground in individual countries, to further this important human rights issue.

RSVP by Friday 28 March to rachael.mccallum@europarl.europa.eu

Participation is by invitation only.

Please note that numbers are limited and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

(REGIO)

From: Georgette Mulheir <Georgette.Mulheir@lumos.org.uk>
Sent: 24 March 2014 17:17
To: (REGIO)
Cc: Irina Papancheva
Subject: Round table on 8th April

Dear

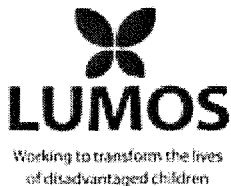
I do hope you are well. By now you should have received an invitation from Claude Moraes, MEP, to a seminar being held in Brussels on the 8th of April. As you may know, Lumos is co-hosting this seminar as part of our year-long campaign, that we launched in November last year, to ensure closer alignment between the EU and US in terms of efforts to end the institutionalisation of children globally. Lumos was recently asked to join the Leaders' Council of the Global Alliance for Children (GAC), a Washington-based grouping of governments, foundations and experts that was formed to implement President Obama's Global Action Plan for Children in Adversity.

Given your central involvement in the work to change the EU's approach to ending institutionalisation, we would be delighted if you were able to join us for the seminar on the 8th of April. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Irina Papancheva (CC'd).

With all best wishes

George

.....
Georgette Mulheir
Chief Executive Officer, Lumos
.....



12-14 Berry Street, London, EC1V 0AU, United Kingdom
t: +44 20 7253 6464 | m: +44 7802 625 777 | e: georgette.mulheir@lumos.org.uk | www.lumos.org.uk

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(REGIO)

From: (REGIO)
Sent: 26 March 2014 23:59
To: 'Georgette Mulheir'
Cc: Irina Papancheva
Subject: RE: Round table on 8th April

Dear Georgette,

Many thanks for your kind invitation! I will participate on the seminar, hope we will have some time to talk.

Best,

From: Georgette Mulheir [<mailto:Georgette.Mulheir@lumos.org.uk>]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2014 5:17 PM
To: (REGIO)
Cc: Irina Papancheva
Subject: Round table on 8th April

Dear

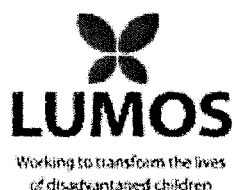
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With all best wishes

George

Georgette Mulheir
Chief Executive Officer, Lumos



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(REGIO)

From: Irina Papancheva <Irina.Papancheva@lumos.org.uk>
Sent: 01 April 2014 11:23
Subject: Round Table 8 April - logistical information
Attachments: 2014 03 28 Background Document Lumos Moraes Round Table 8 April FINAL.pdf
Importance: High

Dear Participant,

Thank you for registering for the Round Table 'A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children: How the EU and the USA can help children in adversity around the world' organised by Lumos and Claude Moraes MEP on 8 April. Please find attached the latest version of the background document. An agenda will follow in the coming days.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you from 13.30 on 8 April for a standing lunch on the Fifth Floor Passarale, just outside room A5G315.

Please do let us know if you are able to attend the lunch.

If you need a badge to access the European Parliament building and intend to join us for lunch, please arrive at the Place Luxembourg entrance no later than 13.15.

If you are not able to join us for the lunch, but need a badge to access the European Parliament, please do let us know.

For issuing the badge we will need the following information. If you have not already provided us with this, please send it to us by this Wednesday, 2 April:

- Date of Birth
- Nationality
- ID Number
- Type of ID Document

This personal information will be used only for the purposes of issuing security passes for the European Parliament and after the event will be deleted from our records.

We look forward to welcoming you to the event.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,
Irina Papancheva

EU Policy and Advocacy Advisor
Lumos

Rue Royale / Koningsstraat 35
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium

Tel.: +32 2 230 73 26
Mob.: +32 470 900 867
Website: <http://wearelumos.org/>

We believe that no child should live in an institution, exposed to harm. We want to consign this practice to the history books. Please join us <http://wearelumos.org/get-involved/stay-connected>



Protecting Children. Providing Solutions.

BACKGROUND

A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children: How the EU and the USA can help children in adversity around the world

Round Table

European Parliament (Room A5G315)

14.30 -17.30 Tuesday 8th April

Co-hosted by Claude Moraes MEP and Lumos

About Claude Moraes MEP

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First elected to the European Parliament in 1999, Claude was the first Asian origin MEP. He was re-elected in 2009 where he led the London list. He is currently Spokesperson for the Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament for Justice and Home Affairs.

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To find out more, visit www.wearelumos.org

About the Global Alliance for Children (GAC)

The Global Alliance for Children is an alliance of philanthropic, multilateral and government funders working to improve the lives of young children in low- and middle-income countries. It formed in 2013 as a direct response to (1) currently fragmented efforts to address young children's essential needs (e.g., health, nutrition, cognitive stimulation, positive parenting and protection from abuse); and (2) a scarcity of evidence-based solutions linking early child development, family care and child protection.

The growing list of Alliance Members now includes the GHR Foundation (US), Lumos Foundation (UK), World Childhood Foundation (Sweden), UBS Optimus Foundation (Switzerland), World Bank (multilateral), USAID (bilateral), US Department of Labor (government agency), Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (observer; bilateral), EIM Group (global investment firm), Save the Children (global NGO) and Maestral International (US).

The U.S. Special Advisor on Children in Adversity spearheaded the effort to create the GAC and it shares the same three objectives as the U.S. Government Action Plan on Children in Adversity:

1. Build strong beginnings – put in place programmes and systems that ensure children under five reach their developmental milestones;
2. Put family care first – strengthen systems that support children to live in their families and end institutionalisation of children;
3. Protect children from all forms of violence and abuse.

The GAC is in the process of selecting 6 countries around the world in which to implement the Action Plan as pilot examples. This means that those countries, if they wish to be involved, will receive greater support to implement their reform programmes for children.

To find out more about the GAC and the US Government' Action Plan for Children in Adversity, visit: www.childreninadversity.org

Institutionalisation

An estimated 8 million children worldwide live in some form of institutionalised residential care, contrary to perceptions, 90% of those children are not orphans. Research from across the world has demonstrated the significant harm caused to children by such institutionalisation.³ The harmful effects include:

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The European Union Response

This year will see the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. The events of 1989 exposed one of the most horrific legacies of the communist systems, namely the plight of hundreds of thousands of children living in large institutions across Central and Eastern Europe. Since then, most countries in the region have begun to tackle the issue, but much remains to be done. There is still significant resistance to reform and many countries in the region still believe that some children must live in institutions.

The EU has played a pivotal role in changing attitudes and shifting systems of care and support from institutions to community services. Nevertheless, at the same time, European Union structural funds have in the past been used to renovate and build new institutions. The intentions of this process were good, but failed to understand that institutions cannot provide proper environments in which to raise children. Investments in institution buildings have not resulted in a significant improvement in children's health, development, future life chances and access to rights. For example in Bulgaria in 2007, €140,000 of European Aid funding earmarked for deinstitutionalisation was spent on renovating one institution for children and adults with severe disabilities. In spite of improvements to the building, in 2010, the same institution was the subject of an investigation into high levels of mortality due to malnutrition, which was highlighted in a report of the UN Committee against Torture. Meanwhile, in one county in the Czech Republic from 2008 – 2012, more than €5.6 million of EU Funds was spent on renovating baby institutions, children's homes and institutions for children and adults with disabilities. In spite of this expenditure, the Czech Ombudsman has since highlighted bad practice and child protection concerns in these institutions.

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aim to end institutionalisation and should promote the transition from institutional to community based services and supports.

Objective of the Round Table

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- highlight the major progress which these EU and US initiatives represent;
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It is hoped that colleagues from the US government, EU structures and NGOs can develop a common agenda aimed at promoting strong beginnings for children, ending institutionalisation and protecting them from harm and abuse.

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(REGIO)

From: Irina Papancheva <Irina.Papancheva@lumos.org.uk>
Sent: 02 April 2014 14:47
To: (REGIO)
Subject: Round Table 8 April
Attachments: 2014 04 01 DRAFT2 Agenda 8 April nq internal.docx

Importance: High

Dear ,

We are very glad you are joining us for the Round Table "A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children: How the EU and the USA can join forces to help children in adversity around the world" on 8 April.

Please find attached the draft agenda. The main points of discussion will be:

1. How deinstitutionalisation became a European Union priority.
2. Towards deinstitutionalisation as a global funding priority
3. Practical Steps for future co-operation

In the framework of these discussions and to prompt debate we would like to ask you to come prepared to say a few words on the topic of The changing policy and regulatory framework . We believe that your contribution, based on the experience and expertise you have in this area, will be invaluable for the discussion. Please do let me know if you are happy to do this.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks.

Best wishes,
Irina

Irina Papancheva
EU Policy and Advocacy Advisor
Lumos

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Mob.: +32 470 900 867
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Agenda [Draft2]

A Global Approach to Ending the Institutionalisation of Children: How the EU and the USA can help children in adversity around the world

A5G315 from 14.30 -16.30

Tuesday 8th April

A buffet lunch will be served from 13.30

14.30: Welcome and Introduction: Claude Moraes MEP

14.40: Deinstitutionalisation, why now?: Georgette Mulheir, Chief Executive, Lumos

14.45: Introduction to the Action Plan for Children in Adversity: Professor Neil Boothby, Special Adviser on Children in Adversity to the US Government

15.00: Discussion 1: How Deinstitutionalisation became a European Union priority:

Georgette Mulheir will introduce and moderate discussion around this theme. Specific, brief contributions are expected from:

- DG REGIO, European Commission – The changing policy and regulatory framework (tbc)
- Jan Jarab, Regional Representative, OHCHR Regional Office for Europe - Institutionalisation as a European human rights priority, the changing paradigm, the scale of the challenge (tbc)
- Adam Kosa MEP – The European Parliament's role, the negotiation process (tbc)
- Elodie Fazi Policy Officer, DG EMPL, European Commission – Investing in Children – a European Commission funding and policy priority
- Kiril Kiryakov, Team Leader Bulgaria, DG REGIO, European Commission – What the new ESI regulations mean in practice the example of Bulgaria

15.30: Discussion 2: Towards Deinstitutionalisation as a Global Funding Priority

JoAnne Wagner, Counselor for Political Affairs, U.S. Mission to the EU, will introduce and moderate discussion around this theme. Specific contributions are expected from:

- Eileen (Helen) Gonnord, Human Rights and Democracy Directorate, European External Action Service - How the EU can support children globally
- Anna de Geer, CEO of the World Childhood Foundation – The role and aims of the Global Alliance for Children in Adversity
- JoAnne Wagner, US Mission to the EU – Closer co-operation of the EU and US on improving the lives of individuals (tbc)

- Lluís Riera Figueras, Director for International Organisations, Human and Society Development, DG DEVCO, European Commission - How the European Union prioritises children's rights and protects marginalised children in its international programmes
- Georgette Mulheir, Chief Executive, Lumos – How the spirit of the EU Structural Funds regulations could be used to influence other funding streams

16.00: Discussion 3: Practical steps for future co-ordination

Moderated discussion chaired by Claude Moraes MEP.

(REGIO)

From: Mara Cavanagh <Mara.Cavanagh@lumos.org.uk>
Sent: 11 April 2014 18:04
To: (REGIO)
Cc: Anna De Geer; Charles Gardner; nb2101@cumc.columbia.edu
Subject: Ending the institutionalisation of children globally
Attachments: Letter to .doc

Dear .

Thank you for attending the seminar co-hosted by Lumos and Claude Moraes' office last Tuesday. Please find attached a letter from Georgette.

Kind regards,

Mara

Mara Cavanagh
Lumos Foundation
Executive Assistant to the CEO
Tel: 0207 253 6464



Protecting Children. Providing Solutions.

11 April 2014

Dear

On behalf of my colleagues at the Global Alliance for Children, I would like to thank you for your participation at the roundtable on Tuesday, co-hosted by Lumos and Claude Moraes. Particularly given the short notice, we were extremely gratified by the level of participation, which demonstrates a broad and deep commitment within the European Commission and other partners to ending the institutionalisation of children across the world. This commitment should facilitate a shift in priorities and funding from institutions towards early childhood development and inclusive community approaches that protect children from violence and ensure they develop to their full potential.

I very much appreciate the contribution you made. Many colleagues commented on how useful it was to hear about the changes in the Structural Funds regulations as well as the challenges still faced in some EU member-States.

We will be in touch shortly with a summary of the outcomes for the event and, in particular, suggested next steps based on the contributions of participants.

Lumos, the World Childhood Foundation and USAID, as well as other GAC members, look forward to working further with you to find ways to translate our shared principles and values into practice on the ground that makes real change for millions of children.

I plan to be in Brussels in a few weeks time and will let you know in advance. It would be great to meet up for a coffee and catch up.

With all best wishes,

Georgette

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Chief Executive Officer, Lumos
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