



De Herman van Veen Foundation

staat voor de rechten van het kind

Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Translation

Arab-West Report

Drs. Cornelis Hulsman

Cairo - Egypt

Dear Mr. Hulsman,

I greatly appreciate the tremendous amount of work that your center has done to coordinate the effort to obtain an Egyptian stone for the Monument for the Tomb of the Unknown Child. You have helped so much in making the necessary links to the Dutch Embassy in Cairo, the Egyptian Ministry of Culture, the Dutch community in Cairo and Egyptians interested in this project.

The Monument for the Unknown Child commemorates children who have died, throughout the world, senselessly. It makes clear that we have a joint responsibility to uphold the Childrens Rights; the right to equal treatment and opportunities, regardless of race, religion or nationality, and the right to the love and understanding from parents, as well as from other people;

The monument explicitly crosses cultural boundaries, just as you do with your work for Arab-West Report and the Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Translation. I believe you are doing a marvelous job for humanity, making people realize that we need to live together, regardless of our convictions. Through your work, you also show that differences between cultures are smaller than they may seem. You are providing the much-needed documentation for intercultural dialogue and making it easily searchable, through the construction of an electronic documentation center. I find it amazing that this initiative started in 1997 without support from any donor, and that despite numerous difficulties over the years, you have continued to work with persistence and dedication in what you and your team believe.

I greatly hope you will be able to overcome these difficulties in the coming year, showing that this project is needed by both Egypt and the West.

Herman van Veen

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