



Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
April 15, 2014

Dear Mr. Mogens Lykketoft:

I, Kregg Halstead, Director of the USAID/DFID Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program (KPSP), am writing to you with a request to facilitate a study tour to the Folketing for a delegation of women parliamentary staffers from Kyrgyzstan.

The Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.K. Department for International Development (DFID) and has been implemented by DAI (a global development company based in Bethesda, Maryland) since October 2010 (www.dai.com).

The KPSP provides assistance to the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (Jogorku Kenesh) in the following areas:

- 1) Improving legislative process and procedures;
- 2) Strengthening parliamentary committees;
- 3) Improving information flow and raising public awareness of parliamentary activities;
- 4) Improving human resources management (HRM) in the Parliament's Administration.

In line with KPSP assistance to the Administration of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic on improvement of gender balance at the level of political decision-making, the Program helped create a Parliamentary Women's Club (www.aiymjk.kg). The members of the Parliamentary Women's Club are senior women staff of the Administration of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The KPSP is planning to conduct a study tour to Scandinavian Parliaments to explore the most successful gender policies and practices in the first half of June. The study tour is meant for the most proactive members of the Parliamentary Women's Club. All costs of the study tour will be covered by the KPSP.

In the spirit of inter-parliamentary cooperation, the KPSP would like for the Kyrgyz delegation, with your consent, to visit your esteemed Parliament as well as the Swedish Riksdag. The Riksdag has

USAID/DFID Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program. Implemented by DAI.

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confirmed that it can receive the Kyrgyz delegation on June 2-3. If you would be so gracious as to host the delegation on June 5-6, it would provide a great opportunity for our group and we would be most appreciative.

In view of the above, I hope for your positive response to our request and look forward to your reply and fruitful cooperation in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kregg Halstead". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kregg Halstead

Chief of Party

Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Strengthening Program