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USSR
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ALL — UNION COORDINATIVE CENTER
ON TROPICAL DISEASES

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Professor M. Meselson,
Department of biochemistry
and molecular biology,
Harvard University,
7 Divinity Ave.,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
USA

Dear Professor Meselson,

As you know, the Martsinovskiy Institute of Medical Parasitology & Tropical Medicine is the leading research centre for epidemiology, control and treatment of human parasitoses in the USSR. It serves as the WHO collaborative center for malaria, leishmaniasis, vector biology and control.

We have in the past developed and successfully guided the malaria eradication programme in the USSR, provided protection of builders of Baikal-Amur railway from blood-sucking arthropods with specially designed clothes. All antihelminthic compounds are produced in the country has been created (synthesis, resynthesis, preclinical and clinical testing, technical documentation) in the Institute. They are included among others the original nematocide "Medamine" with wider spectrum of activity comparatively to mebendazole.

The great changes in the country foreign policy have allowed us to wider open the Institute to the world scientific community. But the rapid changes in the economic structure in the USSR have seriously affected the financial position of the Martsinovskiy Institute. In this dramatic time in our history the Institute kindly requests your help to continue our activities in the line with recommendations of WHO and the World and European Institutes and schools of Medical Parasitology and Tropical Medicine.

We can offer a world-class research staff and reasonable level of technical equipment at a cost which should be far below existing world prices. We have several bright scientists in the field of epidemiology, helminthology and entomology. Is there any possibility for them to obtain a short-term contract for half a year or more as research fellows in Harvard University? Are there similar possibility for me or our senior staff to visit Harvard University for weeks or months as visiting lecturers on different aspects of current epidemiological situation with infectious and parasitic diseases in our country and results of investigations?

are ready to supply you with c.v. of these persons on your request.

We would be gratefull for your assistance and collaboration. It also would be very much appreciated if you could advise or indicate any potential cooperative parties and/or sponsors. We are ready to supply you with additional relevant information on your request.

We believe that we offer the highest professional assistance at the lowest possible cost. We are not so much asking for aid as we are asking to help make an excellent joint venture arrangement.

Please transmit my best regards to your charming wife Jeanne.

I wish both of you 12 happy months in 1992 & Merry Christmas!

Yours sincerly,

Vladimir P.Sergiev
Director
Martsinovsky Institute
M.Pirogovskaya 20
Moscow 119435
USSR