Dr Elias Opongo SJ <director.hipsir@hekima.ac.ke> Nov 15 (3 days ago)

to me

Dear Erika,
Once again I am very grateful for this opportunity and for our conversation. I am so happy to have met you in this program and hope that something positive will develop out of this. I have just shared the following message with the Principle as a way of following up on our conversation. It summarizes our discussions, many thanks again and we'll keep in touch, Elias:

a) The idea is that we would partner with the Canadian Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) centre in developing a mediation program that would train professionals that can mediate between the oil, gas and mining companies, and the affected communities.
b) Develop a partnership that would run for three years during which the ADR centre would train staff and individuals at HIPSIR to conduct specialized mediation training to different organizations and companies.
c) At the end of the three years HIPSIR would be expected to be independent but the relationship with the ADR centre could continue in a different form

Process of implementation
1. Consultation period: in the coming weeks the two institutes to do an internal consultations with their colleagues in order to sell the idea and build an interest. Erika will present the idea to the Board of the ADR centre which is meeting in a week's time. She is positive that the Board could approve it. Elias mentioned that he had already briefed the Principal and the Assistant Director of HIPSIR
2. MOU: The next step would be to develop an MOU between the two institutions
3. Fundraising: The two institutions would jointly put together a proposal for fundraising. It would be a good strategy to approach the oil and mining companies based in Canada but with interests in Africa like Talisman, Tullow, Shell, etc. We would begin by contacting the local/regional offices in Nairobi so that they may contact their head quarters in Canada and elsewhere.

We are excited that if this succeeds it would be a great opportunity.

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