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Parker, Christine D

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 4:47 PM
To: Ladenson, Jeffrey L
Subject: RE: Initiative Ethiopia

RELEASED IN FULL

Categories: Working

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Barbara Nielsen, Senior Reviewer

I think so – I don't want to spam the MFA so we'll wait until the end of this week to send it out and can follow up with Gladney next week. I mostly want to get the information about Initiative into the hands of CSA, as they are required to be reporting to CSA regularly the contributions they receive, bank accounts, and tax info. If they're not acct for anything, I bet you they're not paying taxes either...

Christine Parker
Deputy Consular Section Chief
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ParkerCD2@state.gov

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From: Ladenson, Jeffrey L
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 4:43 PM
To: Parker, Christine D
Subject: RE: Initiative Ethiopia

We have informed Washington, but have not informed GOE. Should I prepare another dipnote? I'll save a draft of this email until we inform Government.

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From: Parker, Christine D
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 4:41 PM
To: Ladenson, Jeffrey L
Subject: RE: Initiative Ethiopia

This looks ok. I would include that we have already reported our concerns regarding the operation of this orphanage to our own folks in Washington, as well as the Ethiopian MFA, CSA, and MOWCYA (we have, right? Or is that still in the works? Let's wait to send Scott an email until we've already informed government).

Let's add also that we understand from our December conversation that Gladney is not currently reviewing its practices in Ethiopia, and reiterate our strong support for taking such a step at this time...

Christine Parker

Deputy Consular Section Chief
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From: Ladenson, Jeffrey L
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 4:36 PM
To: Parker, Christine D
Subject: Initiative Ethiopia

Any comments before I send this email to Gladney's home office?

Scott-

Following our phone conversation a few weeks ago and your concerns over Gladney's activities in Ethiopia, I wanted to touch base with you regarding your agency's relationship with Initiative Ethiopia. Embassy officials met with the director of Initiative Ethiopia on three occasions in December and January, and we conducted a site visit to the Initiative Ethiopia orphanage in Awassa, Ethiopia on January 20, 2010.

During our discussions with the director of the orphanage we learned that Gladney is providing the orphanage director with 20,000 birr/month (\$1400/month) for capacity building, in addition to other expenses associated with operating an orphanage. During these discussions, the director could not articulate, nor account, for what he is doing with these resources. At first, he indicated that these funds were for expenses such as fuel costs. However, Gladney's contract with the orphanage clearly has a separate line item for operational expenses.

During my visit to Initiative Ethiopia's facility in Awassa last week I was struck by the lack of any documentation at the facility. Staff were unsure where the documents were being stored for the 32 children currently at the facility. A log book, with the name of the child and date they arrived, is the only form of information available. Further, no one at the orphanage was aware of any capacity building activities.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss anything further.

Regards

Jeffrey L. Ladenson
Vice Consul
U.S. Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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