

OPEN SOCIETY
JUSTICE INITIATIVE



June 10, 2010

Mr. Patrice Sam, Investigator
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Internal Oversight Service, Investigation Section
7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP France

Dear Mr. Sam:

We write to inquire whether UNESCO has conducted with appropriate due diligence a review of the source of the \$3 million apparently received or to be received by UNESCO to fund the UNESCO-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences (“the Prize”), and if not, we request that you open an internal investigation into the matter, given the risk that the money may represent the proceeds of corruption and fraud. Our full inquiry and request for investigation is enclosed. This request is of particular urgency, in view of the upcoming UNESCO Executive Board meeting on June 15, 2010, at which the Prize is expected to be debated.

The undersigned non-governmental organizations are all currently involved in pursuing legal proceedings against President Obiang and his family members and close associates regarding alleged money laundering and corruption. As such, we have an intimate knowledge of a substantial and ever-widening body of information surrounding the

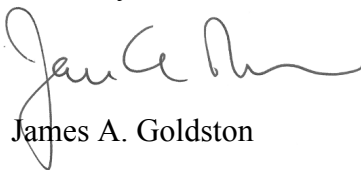
President's transactions, many of which appear to involve diversion of state assets to himself and those close to him.

Association Sherpa, as counsel to Transparence International France and a Gabonese taxpayer, filed a criminal complaint in December 2008 charging President Obiang and two other heads of state with unjust enrichment. The resulting Paris Police investigations have produced evidence that supports the allegations, and the claim is still pending (on interlocutory appeal). Asociación pro Derechos Humanos de España ("APDHE"), working with the Open Society Justice Initiative, is party, as *acusador popular*, to a criminal proceeding in Spain investigating money laundering allegations against close associates of the President, building on documentation produced in connection with a 2004 United States Senate investigation into the former Riggs Bank. The investigation surrounding this pending claim has uncovered further evidence of wrongful taking of state oil revenues and use for personal property expenditures. EG Justice and the Open Society Justice Initiative are co-counsel to APDHE on a complaint pending in the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, alleging that the President and his government have committed spoliation, depriving the people of their right to freely dispose of their wealth and natural resources under Article 21 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this request at your earliest convenience and advise us as to whether your office will proceed with an investigation, and if not, the grounds for that decision. Will you also kindly provide us with copies of UNESCO's due diligence policies and procedures for screening sources of funding for prizes.

Please also do not hesitate to advise us if you think we may be of further assistance in clarifying these matters with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Goldston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James A. Goldston

Cc: Irina Bokova