

Emily Guegbeh Peal
Chief Executive Officer
Foundation for Women
Monrovia, Liberia

July 1, 2010

Special Invitation to Discuss Women's Leadership in Sub-Saharan Africa

Dear Madam:

On behalf of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Institute of International Education, it is our pleasure to invite you to attend **a two-day conference on August 12-13, 2010** to be held at Kuriftu Lodge just outside Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The purpose of the conference is to reflect with prominent women leaders from throughout Africa on the African women's movement, to analyze its strengths and weaknesses, identify gaps and the mechanisms to fill these gaps and consider what programs are needed to support women's leadership development in sub-Saharan Africa. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation is considering expanding its work in this area and we are inviting you to help us learn about current activities related to women's leadership development in Africa, identify successful approaches and consider ways to effectively complement and expand this work.

Your name was one of the many prominent African women suggested to us by our partners, and we are convinced that your participation will enhance the quality of discussion at the conference. We want to engage women like you who are in positions of leadership and have knowledge of or experience related to women's leadership development. We sincerely hope you will be able to attend.

The conference itself will begin on the morning of Thursday, August 12th. You should plan to arrive in Addis Ababa on Wednesday, August 11, and depart on either Friday late Friday evening, August 13, or Saturday morning August 14th.

This invitation is personal and cannot be transferred to another person within or outside your organization. If you are able to attend, we will cover the costs associated with your travel and lodging.

Please RSVP to Joshua Reiman at the Institute of International Education-Ethiopia at jreiman@gwu.edu or +251-11-663-3785 no later than July 20, 2010 to confirm your attendance at this meeting. We will want to begin processing your travel as soon as possible. Again we regret that you may not send someone else to represent you if you are not able to attend.

If you do not already have an Ethiopian visa, you will need to apply for one through your Ethiopian Embassy. You may use this letter to support your visa application. If your country does not have an Ethiopian Embassy, please notify Joshua Reiman at the address above so that we can provide you with additional documentation to facilitate your travels.

We very much look forward to your presence and participation at this important and exciting meeting.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Francisconi
Director
Institute of International Education-Ethiopia