

March 20, 2002

As to our conversation on your specific project, my comments follow:

*Clearly education is one of the cornerstones in addressing the HIV/AIDS pandemic. We know that getting direct and accurate messages to people is a key to their understanding and a contributor to their knowledge and behavioral changes, so essential to preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS. Your approach to develop an educational program within the Botswana military, utilizing ICT to train and deliver a program whose content reflects local custom, holds much promise of success. **Your ability to engage the government in this fashion, utilize local knowledge and input to developing the messages and use an appropriate level of technology to assist the delivery are key components to success and sustainability.** Plans to expand this education to military family members is very exciting. This next step will help to address two major considerations: improved gender equality, by enabling equal access to relevant information for women and girls, and focussed education to youth, both of which are vulnerable target groups.*

I hope this is useful for you and I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

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