THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 16, 2014

Dear Deans:

The United States strongly supports the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and efforts to end the spread of the polio virus forever.

In response to your January 2013 letter to the President expressing concern about the safety of vaccination workers, I wanted to inform you that the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) directed in August 2013 that the Agency make no operational use of vaccination programs, which includes vaccination workers. Similarly, the Agency will not seek to obtain or exploit DNA or other genetic material acquired through such programs. This CIA policy applies worldwide and to U.S. and non-U.S. persons alike. Please feel free to share this information with whomever you deem appropriate.

Your tireless efforts to improve global health are inspiring. Thank you for the work you do.

Sincerely,

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