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Publications: http://genevegil.com/references/chatterjee.pdf (pp. 2-3)

Nassrine Azimi

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Please refer to the letter below as a reference from former UNITAR-NY Director Azimi.

INST∤TUT DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LA FORMATION ET LA RECHERCHE Bureau de New York



UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH New York Office

Dr. David Eaton LBJ School Sid Richardson Hall 3.700 University of Texas Austin, TX 78712 Mrs. Carolyn Palaima Institute of Latin American Studies Sid Richardson Hall 1.304 University of Texas Austin, TX 78712

18 August 1998

Dear David and Carolyn,

I am writing to give you an update on developments here, as well as indications of future plans, with regard to the work of Genève Gil.

- 1. We are now two thirds into this first phase of the UT/A fellowship. I must say that so far it has been an enriching experience for all concerned. With regard to the Trade Campus and its follow-up, Genève's input was essential, both in terms of substance and process. We all learned a lot from that experience, which would be most valuable for the second campus next year. Genève Gil also took part in two other UNITAR workshops during her stay: a workshop on documentation for new delegates, and another on communications and public speaking. Here, too, she learned quite a bit about our work; we, on the other hand, benefited immensely from her insight and her ability to precisely discern the qualitites and limitations of a training programme.
- 2. As regards the work on the UNITAR-New York Office web site, this is where we will be keeping complete focus over the next four weeks, till the end of her stay. Much progress has already been made: The UNITAR-New York Office 1998 Programme has been reviewed and is now up and running on the web. Genève is now focussing on each individual programme, to give it more depth and texture, and increase the level of information provided per training event. We hope that by September 11, at least as regards UNITAR's 1998 activities, we will have a credible web site, as well as a *modus operandi* for the short and medium terms, both for its management and development.
- 3. I would now like to look toward the future. It is obvious that for a small office such as ours, continuity in this endeavour would be of utmost importance. Though we have advanced in leaps and bounds in forwarding the objectives of the UT/A and UNITAR Memorandum of Understanding in the short time since Genève's arrival, much remains to be done. My question to you therefore is: rather than bringing a new UT/A Fellow on board at this stage of the work, is there a possibility of sustaining Genève's fellowship here for a period of six to twelve months, beginning in January of 1999? This would allow her to plan the completion and implementation of what she has initiated here.



In summary, the objectives of this period could be:

- 3.1 To complete work begun on the NYO web site and move into specific applications, such as distance learning and material support to a range of UNITAR courses.
- 3.2 To design and conduct with us the second UNITAR/UTA Campus on International Trade to be held in June of 1999.
- 3.3 To design and conduct with us, hopefully with the direct involvement of LANIC, a new training programme, entitled (approximate title) Latin America and the Internet: Information gathering, analysis and decision-making using new information technologies. We envision a one-week workshop in which participants are trained in the fundamentals of researching on the web and then given a rigorous information-gathering and analytical exercise pertaining to a topic of their choice, resulting in the presentation of a case based on their web research. In the first year we would focus on Latin America, in view of the substantive support we can get from LANIC. If this course is successful, we could develop it further for other regions or themes as well.

Before going any further, I would appreciate hearing your thoughts on these matters. Obviously I have discussed this with Genève who is supportive of the ideas expressed herein. At your early convenience, I would be grateful for your feedback.

Warm regards,

Nassrine Azimi

Chief, UNITAR New York Office

cc: Dr. Marcel A. Boisard Executive Director, UNITAR Geneva