

From: Omar Amanat
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009 7:11:07 PM
To: Shamil Idriss; Huma Abedin; Huma new
Subject: Re: Meeting request

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That's great news regarding Farah.
She heard me give a talk at Haim Saban's house in Bel Air in front of the Hollywood creative community and invited me to give the same talk in DC, which I deferred.

Btw, Huma I'm in Madrid.

-----Original Message-----

From: Shamil Idriss

Date: Fri, 26 Jun 2009 14:53:56

To: Huma Abedin<Huma@clintonemail.com>; 'habedin@clintonemail.com'<habedin@clintonemail.com>

Cc: 'omar@clintonemail.com'<omar@clintonemail.com>

Subject: RE: Meeting request

Huma,

Just saw that Farah Pandith's appointment has been announced - it may be too late notice for you (and too early on for her) to get a meeting with you both on Monday, but I will be in DC meeting with Josh DuBois and (possibly) Alex Djerassi so if it is workable for you and her I would be happy to do so. Otherwise, I can always come down at a later date that is more convenient for you both.

With best regards,
Shamil

-----Original Message-----

From: Huma Abedin (mailto:Huma@clintonemail.com)

Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2009 5:11 PM

To: Shamil Idriss; 'habedin@clintonemail.com'

Cc: 'omar@clintonemail.com'

Subject: Re: Meeting request

Thanks for getting in touch
would love to arrange a meeting
We are about to announce a special representative working specifically on muslim engagement issues. I'd like to get her on board first before we schedule something first so she can participate in the meeting.

----- Original Message -----

From: Shamil Idriss

To: habedin@clintonemail.com<habedin@clintonemail.com>

Cc: omar@clintonemail.com<omar@clintonemail.com>

Sent: Tue Jun 23 17:06:54 2009

Subject: RE: Meeting request

Huma,

As follow-up to my note yesterday - and after having reconnected with Omar - attached is a document listing both the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Board for the Alliance of Civilizations Media Fund with each of their bios.

With regard to the new media initiatives we are developing, we are working in this start-up phase with KIT Digital, which has made a commitment of \$150,000 of in-kind digital-services to us; Soliya, a non-profit pioneer in the use of the latest technologies to link university students in the US and Europe with their peers in predominantly Muslim countries; and we have a founding partnership with YouTube and excellent relations at the senior executive level at Google. In the film industry we have a commitment from Participant Media - the leading production studio of films for social change - of up to

Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch, Inc.

\$100 million of matching funds for film productions that advance mutual understanding and human security between Western and Muslim populations. This is complemented by exclusive film packaging and distribution arrangements with International Creative Management and Summit Entertainment

I cannot claim credit for many of these partnerships and commitments as I inherited most of them from Omar and my Board when I stepped in as Executive Director, but I do see a real window of opportunity to bring these and other relationships to the table to help meet some of the challenges identified by President Obama and Secretary Clinton – and I have a strategy in mind for how to do this that I'd like to discuss with you.

As noted yesterday, I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you in DC next Monday or at another day and time that is convenient for you – there or in New York where I am based.

Also – FYI - the next public event we will do in DC will be in early October. The US Institute of Peace is hosting an event for us during which one of the Harvard lab researchers we have supported will present and discuss – together with our Advisory Board member HM Queen Noor and myself – on the impact of visual media on intergroup relations. The target audience will be public diplomacy policy-makers, media for social change practitioners and funders, and think tanks dealing with US relations with the Muslim World. Once the date is set we will make sure you are alerted on the off-chance that you might be available to attend yourself or might be willing to propose others who we should invite. Of course, I hope we will have already had the chance to meet before then.

With best regards,

Shamil

P.S. Incidentally, in yesterday's note I mis-identified Josh Dubois as someone with whom we had already met – in fact it was Mara Vanderslice with whom our partners at Soliya met and they - we are in the process of seeking a meeting with Josh for next Monday.

Shamil Idriss

Executive Director

Alliance of Civilizations Media Fund

733 Third Avenue, 11th Floor

New York, NY 10017



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From: Shamil Idriss
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2009 4:43 PM
To: 'habedin [redacted]
Cc: 'omai [redacted]
Subject: Meeting request

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Dear Huma,

I am writing at the suggestion of Omar Amanat to request a meeting at your earliest convenience. The organization I lead – the Alliance of Civilizations Media Fund - was launched in 2008 through no small effort by Omar and the members of my Board and aims to improve Muslim-Western relations using mass media (TV, film, and new media).

Our first step was to fund research at Harvard, MIT, and the New School for Social Research exploring the impact of visual media on identity-formation and intergroup relations. Research results are now coming in and provide a compelling argument to media industry leaders and public diplomacy policy-makers on the power of visual media to either polarize or reconcile populations.

Using these research findings we are developing TV, film, and new media initiatives working closely with industry leaders who – like us – want to answer Secretary Clinton's call to embrace "21st century statecraft" using technology and mobilizing as citizen diplomats.

Specifically, we are working with partners to rapidly develop the on-line platform for citizen-to-citizen youth engagement which President Obama called for in his Cairo speech. We and our partners are already in touch with a number of people in the Administration (names listed below this e-mail).

Might you have time to meet with me in the coming 2 weeks – perhaps next Monday, June 29 – to discuss our plans and advise on our engagement with the Administration?

I know you are exceptionally busy and so will work around your schedule - we are very well-placed to mobilize the private-sector media industry engagement that the Administration has called for and we are eager to move quickly on this. My bio is below FYI.

With best regards,

Shamil Idriss

Members of the Administration with whom we or our partners have already recently met:

Alex Djerassi, Bureau of Near East Affairs, State Dept

Pradeep Ramamurthy, National Security Council

Macon Phillips, Director of New Media, White House

Josh Dubois & Mara Vanderslice, Office of Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships, White House

Upon the advice of Djerassi and others we are also seeking a meeting with Alec Ross, Senior Advisor for Innovation to Sec. Clinton in the coming 1-2 weeks.

Shamil Idriss

Executive Director

Alliance of Civilizations Media Fund

733 Third Avenue, 11th Floor

New York, NY 10017



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BIO

Shamil Idriss is Executive Director of the Alliance of Civilizations Media Fund, a consortium of media industry leaders and philanthropists dedicated to using mass media to improve cross-cultural understanding and respect. He also serves as Senior Advisor to the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, which fosters cooperation between multi-lateral agencies, governments and civil society organizations to improve cross-cultural relations, particularly between Western and predominantly Muslim societies. Mr. Idriss was appointed Deputy Director of the Alliance by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 2005. Previous to these positions, Mr. Idriss served as Senior Advisor to the World Economic Forum where he established the "action track" of the Council of 100 Leaders: West-Islamic World Dialogue Initiative. From 2000-2004, he served as Chief Operating Officer of Search for Common Ground (SFCG), a leading non-governmental organization in international conflict resolution with offices in 17 countries. As COO he managed the organization's headquarters and global operations. Mr. Idriss serves on the Board of SFCG and is Chairman of the Board of Soliya, which uses web-conferencing technology to foster understanding and cooperation between university students in diverse regions. He was appointed in 2005 to the World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders Forum and in 2007 to the WEF's Global Agenda Council on International Conflict Resolution and Negotiation. He lives in New York with his wife Dr. Cynthia Idriss and daughters Aniset and Nura.

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From: Huma Abedin [Huma@clintonemail.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2009 1:33:01 AM
To: 'humamabedln'
Subject: Print

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----- Original Message -----

From: H
To: Huma Abedin
Sent: Thu Jun 25 22:06:00 2009
Subject: Fw: Kudos and thanks to the Secretary

Pls print.

----- Original Message -----

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
To: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>; Crowley, Philip J <CrowleyPJ@state.gov>; Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>; Lew, Jacob J <LewJJ@state.gov>; Reines, Philippe I <reinesp@state.gov>; Steinberg, James B <SteinbergJB@state.gov>
Sent: Thu Jun 25 08:41:02 2009
Subject: FW: Kudos and thanks to the Secretary

FYI - nice.

cdm

From: Blocker, Merrie D
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009 10:36 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: Kudos and thanks to the Secretary

Thirty years I am a FSO and for the first time I feel really really proud to be part of a Secretary's team. Examples

1, Bringing back Farah Pandith. When she left with the change of administration I thought what a waste and figured there was no chance a Democrat would bring back someone from a Republic administration. But you did!

2, The respect for the input of career officers by the Secretary and the U/Ses is just amazing. It will really help improve our foreign relations.

3. The Secretary's understanding of the little things and their importance, such as holiday statements.

Well, there are more but we are under staffed and have to get back to work.

Many thanks to you all for being there.

Merrie Blocker, Program Coordinator

Office of Public Diplomacy, Bureau of South and Central Asia Affairs

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