

THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

October 31, 2001

Mr. Andrés Reyes Rodriguez
Presidente
Consejo Nacional de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología
Ave. Enrique Jiménez Moya esq. Juan de Dios Ventura Simó
5to. Piso, Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
República Dominicana

Dear Mr. Reyes:

On September 6, 2001, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) met in Washington, D.C. Among other things, the NCFMEA reviewed the report submitted by the Consejo Nacional de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología (CONESCT) that described its accreditation activities involving the medical schools in the Dominican Republic and its relationship with the Dominican Association of Self-Study and Accreditation (ADDAAC).

The NCFMEA members wish to thank you and the other representatives from your country for attending the September meeting to provide additional information regarding the status of medical accreditation activities in the Dominican Republic. The members also appreciate your invitation to them to visit your country to observe a CONESCT site review of a medical school. After CONESCT has established its schedule for site reviews, the NCFMEA Executive Director would be pleased to work with you or your representatives so that one or two NCFMEA members can observe a site review by your agency.

As you are aware, at the September meeting, the NCFMEA formally accepted the report submitted by CONESCT. In order to keep informed regarding your country's accreditation activities, the Committee also requested that CONESCT submit another annual report to the United States Department of Education for review at the September 2002 NCFMEA meeting. The purpose of the annual report is to provide the NCFMEA with a summary of the accreditation activities involving medical schools in the Dominican Republic, including the following information:

- *Overview of accreditation activities:* A summary of key activities by CONESCT during the past year (August 2001 - June 2002), such as accreditation reviews conducted, meetings held and accreditation decisions reached, accreditation conferences or training sessions held.

Our mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the Nation.

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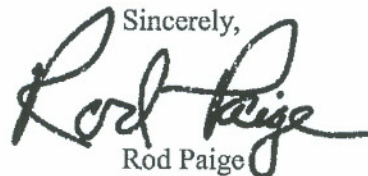
- *Summary of any changes or developments in the following areas:*
 - *Laws and Regulations:* Any changes in your country's laws or regulations affecting the accreditation of medical schools in the Dominican Republic.
 - *Standards, Processes and Procedures:* Any changes in the accreditation standards, processes or procedures that CONESCT uses to evaluate and accredit medical schools in the Dominican Republic.
- *Schedule of upcoming accreditation activities:* A listing of CONESCT meetings and listing of on-site visits to medical schools and clinical clerkship sites planned for July 2002 - June 2003.

Please send the report by July 1, 2002, to the Executive Director of the NCFMEA at the address below:

Ms. Bonnie L. LeBold
Executive Director, NCFMEA
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street NW – Room 7007
Washington, DC 20006-7563
U.S.A.

The Executive Director will contact you in the spring of 2002 to provide information regarding the September 2002 meeting and more details on submission of the annual report. In the interim, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. LeBold at (202) 219-7009 (telephone), (202) 219-7008 (fax), or Bonnie.LeBold@ed.gov (e-mail).

Thank you very much for responding to our requests for information about your standards and processes for accreditation of medical schools. I appreciate your interest and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rod Paige

cc: Mr. Emilio Huyke
Consultant to CONESCT