

Mosibudi Mangena
Ministry of Science and Technology
Private Bag X727
Oranje Nassau Building
7th Floor, Room 7059
188 Schoeman Street
PRETORIA 0001

September 12, 2005

Dear Minister,

You will be aware that your department has provided R75 000 to assist in getting the vitally important Pfunanani Research Trust off the ground. Like you, the Trust is concerned about the fact that after 10 years of freedom black scientists are still not being trained in South Africa.

The Dr. Rath Health Foundation Africa has informed the President that it wishes to establish a health sciences research institute in South Africa. The institute will be a global centre of excellence for the development of natural alternatives to meet the urgent health needs in the developing world. The new research institute will house the health sciences arm of the Pfunanani Research Trust. Professor Sam Mhlongo will head the medical and clinical arm of the new institute.

Over the past five months, David Rasnick has been searching Pretoria, Midrand, Johannesburg and surrounding areas for a suitable site to locate the research institute. The most promising site thus far is the old NHLS complex in Braamfontein on de Korte Street. Most of the remaining personnel and functions of the Braamfontein facility are being transferred to a new complex near the airport.

The Dr. Rath Health Foundation is interested in two of the buildings available at the Braamfontein facility. However, it may turn out that the buildings are not suitable and we must continue our search. That is why we are contacting you.

We are asking for your assistance to help us identify potential sites and facilities for establishing the research institute. As an international hub of excellence, it has become evident that the institute should be located in the vicinity of Johannesburg. Since the new research institute will be a model for the world as well as representing South Africa, the facility and surroundings need to be attractive.

With your assistance, this vital work could become a reality in the Republic of South Africa. We look forward to discussing these matters with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

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