



Embassy of the United States of America

Yerevan, Armenia
March 20, 2008

Dear Mr. Minister:

At the request of Richard Douglas, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counternarcotics, Counterproliferation and Global Threats from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, it is my pleasure to deliver to you a letter thanking the Government of Armenia for its interest, as expressed in Health Minister Kushkian's October 23, 2007 letter, in participating in the Biological Threat Reduction Program (BTRP) run by the Department of Defense.

As you will read in the Deputy Assistant Secretary's letter, the first step in initiating Armenia's participation in the BTRP is to conclude an implementing agreement.

You will see that the Department of Defense initially planned to send a delegation to Armenia in early March to discuss the BTRP, but this was postponed in light of recent events. We have no indication yet when the trip will be rescheduled, but will notify the Foreign Ministry as soon as information becomes available to us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph A. Pennington".

Joseph Pennington
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

cc: Minister of Health H.E. Harutyun Kushkian
Minister of Agriculture H.E. David Lokian

Enclosures:

Letter from DoD Deputy Assistant Secretary Douglas
Draft Implementing Agreement on BTRP

His Excellency
Vartan Oskanian,
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Armenia.