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Igor S. Ivanov
President
Russian International Affairs Council
Alexander House, B.
Yakimanka Street, 1
Moscow 119180
Russia

20 December 12

Dear Minister,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me and my colleagues from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Moscow a few weeks ago. It was a real pleasure and honor to meet you both of you.

I'd like to express my appreciation for the valuable insight you shared on prospects of collaboration with the Russian government in general, in its upcoming G20 and G8 presidencies, as well as your advice on geographical priorities, and private sector engagement. We were very interested to hear about the work of the Russian International Affairs Council and I look forward to discussing into more detail how we could work together if the Russian government is asking us to partner closely on a particular initiative of their G20.

Thank you also for offering to put us in touch with Russian companies working in Africa – this would be incredibly valuable for our private sector engagement work moving forward.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish both of you all the best for the upcoming winter holidays and every success in the New Year!

I look forward to meeting again in the near future.

Kind regards,



Joe Cerrell
Director, European Office
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

cc. Andrey V. Kortunov, Russian International Affairs Council