

Dear Heads of Network, dear colleagues,

First of all thank you very much for your messages of support and solidarity which have been conveyed to all the ALF staff, Egyptians and internationals, those we are working from Alexandria and those who will contribute to make the Foundation working from their countries of origin, in close coordination with us.

In spite of the improvement of some daily life conditions, it is becoming very difficult to ensure the development of our activities from Alexandria. We have a limited access to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina due to a privilege we received from the officials in charge of the security, because the BA remains closed, while the curfew is in place. The Swedish Institute, where part of our staff is hosted, was closed last Thursday and will not be opened until the security of its personnel is fully ensured.

In this conditions, of course, our main concern is the security of all the staff, nationals and expats. We held several meetings with all of them. They are fine and in permanent contact with each other.

As we told you in our previous mail, we are putting in place a provisional structure to ensure the communication with all the ALF bodies (BoG, Advisory Council and HoN Institutions and Networks) and with our main stakeholders (beneficiaries of ALF grants, partners, etc.) and to implement as soon as possible the most urgent projects of the Work Plan 2011.

We are working on this structure, on-line, in collaboration with Gemma Aubarell, who coordinates provisionally our staff abroad from the IEMed, and the ALF staff in Alexandria.

Of course, it will be impossible to put in place a permanent structure till the situation will not be clarified, and all the measures taken are provisional. Our strong will is to ensure the continuity of the Anna Lind Foundation headquarters in Alexandria, and we are in contact with Egyptian officials with regards to making it possible.

In order to respond to a number of priorities, we have decided to:

1. Finalize the contracts of the 27 projects selected by the Evaluation Committee, in the framework of the last Call for Proposals focused on Migration and Diversity, and Peace and Coexistence. The beneficiaries will be contacted to confirm the ALF approval of their proposals, and tell them that they can start

implementation. The grant contracts will be sent them as soon as possible, and the first payment installment issued as soon as the banks will open (probably next Sunday) and will be able to attend our requests (attached list of granted projects). We will also issue the payments for the beneficiaries of the previous CFP (second installment), as soon as the banking system will be accessible.

2. To put on hold the Campaign 'Believe in Dialogue / Prevent the Misuse of Faiths' we were preparing in close collaboration with all of you, in response to the terrorist attack perpetrated against a Christian Church of Alexandria. Even if the feedback we have received from you on the opportunity of this Campaign was extremely positive, we are currently not in the logistical condition to launch it . Some of you have suggested that the focus of the Campaign must be enlarged or changed, in light of the current events which affect the civil society of a number of Southern Euromed countries, but this is something which cannot be done without a proper debate among the Networks and the consultation of the Board of Governors.

3. To prepare for the next Senior Officials Meeting (member ambassadors of the BoG of the ALF) scheduled for the 8th of February in Brussels, a comprehensive information about the situation in which we develop our activity and the response of our Networks to the events in Egypt. This information will be accompanied by a set of possible scenarios for ensuring the work of the Foundation on the short and mid-term. These scenarios will depend, of course, on the evolution of the situation in Alexandria and in Egypt. I am in contact with President Azoulay, the Chairperson of the Board, Ambassador Veronika Stabej, the European Commission and different member States in order to ask for an extraordinary meeting of the ALF Board of Governors, if needed.

We would recommend you to inform your Network members on the current developments of the Anna Lindh Foundation' activity, and to forward them our regular updates.

Best regards,

Andreu Claret

Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation