Dear Donors,

It is with heavy heart that I write to make you aware of an unpleasant situation CIJA finds itself in. Unfortunately, allegations and rumours regarding CIJA are of such nature that, should they be publicly spread and not refuted, they will damage not only the Commission but also the successes we have made and the good work we continue to do in the accountability field.

There are two separate issues I want to address with you today:

1. The claim – first put out by [10.2.e] in outlets such as the [10.2.e, 10.2.g] (and now being picked up by newspapers in Belgium and the Netherlands) - that CIJA and [10.2.e] (a private company owned by [10.2.e]) are one and the same.

2. The claim that a press release put out by the EU’s OLAF on 24 March 2020 concerns an EU grant awarded to CIJA.

Both of these claims are manifestly false, and I will address them here in detail. It is a complex matter that requires delving back to the past and the discussions we have had with programme officers who have been long-standing supporters of our work in Syria, albeit at the time when they were overseen by different personnel. There is no truth in these claims, but the complexity of the facts is such that those seeking to write or discuss the topic – intentionally or not – end up creating a misleading and false narrative.

We firmly believe that the steps that led to the set up and current organizational capacity of CIJA are a testament to the success of innovative and entrepreneurial thinking on behalf of many individuals from the non-profit, commercial and donor sectors who came together at a time of crisis and found a viable way to secure evidence that is essential to the current as well as future avenues for justice in Syria. Most importantly, it is a testament to the engagement of the best minds in the criminal investigative and analytical fields of criminal justice, many of whom left highly-paid and secure jobs to join a novel idea. They have been joined by numerous leading experts in the world of international criminal law who selflessly continue to put in unpaid hours as advisors and oversight board members. At no time did CIJA hide the story of its beginnings from these professionals, its staff or the general public - let alone from its donors.

In less than eight years together we have managed to build an organization that has indisputably advanced the idea of international criminal justice and unequivocally secured
unrivalled amounts of evidence pertaining to the Syrian conflict, to a degree unseen in any war to this point in history. This is a story we are proud to tell.

CIJA has thus far received fifty-nine grants from eleven donors, including five from the European Union. The total value of these grants is EUR 37.5m. During this same period, CIJA has passed forty-nine external audits undertaken by independent auditors, including those appointed by its donors, not least the European Union. No donor grant to CIJA has ever failed an audit, nor have any of the audits of CIJA records led to adverse findings regarding the financial management of public monies by CIJA or the more general administrative practices of the Commission.

The threat and allegations we are now facing are not new. Previously they were an outcome of attempts to discredit the work of CIJA and tarnish the image and reputation of individuals such as and and.

- May 2019: issues a statement for the first time attacking openly the veracity of CIJA’s work, calling the organization “opaque.”
- June 2019: publish an article in the objective of which is to discredit CIJA and ; this followed a similar piece on and .
- Summer 2019: as well as for its attacks upon the reputations of the and , commences work on a “research paper” about CIJA, and . The same collection of – in which they attempt to link business and non-profit interests to a conspiracy in order to discredit the – starts asking exactly the same questions about SCJA/CIJA as they did about .
Simultaneously (according to its later press release), in January 2020 OLAF concludes its investigations into a rule of law project relating to Syria and forwards its findings to various national authorities.

23 March 2020: OLAF makes public that it had concluded the aforementioned investigation in January.

April/May 2020: CIJA is approached by a journalist from

Most of you are aware of the fact that, the chairman of the CIJA Board of Directors, owns a company called. While some detractors of the CIJA project claim this is a conflict of interest, the truth is the opposite as you will know from many examples around the world of individuals successfully fulfilling their roles in commercial and non-profit sector.

Neither nor CIJA ever hid the fact that he is the owner of and transparently talked about it, including in these articles published by the Guardian and the New Yorker. CIJA has also publicly discussed how was involved in the set-up of the initiative that eventually led to the creation of CIJA, as you will be able to see in the above referenced articles as well as in other media including this lengthy academic deconstruction of CIJA’s beginnings in a peer-reviewed journal.

involvement in the set-up of the project that eventually led to the creation of CIJA will be well known not only to our early donors but also to those of you who joined later. The early years of the Syrian conflict (2011-2012) presented an urgent challenge for the international community interested in supporting two strands of activities: accountability and humanitarian assistance. CIJA was born out of the first strand, and the were an outcome of the second one. The focus at the time was on establishing the presence in the field and building the capacity for this work to be done – and indeed, to start doing the work as soon as possible. Nobody expected that in 2020 CIJA would still be conducting investigations nor

This is the reason why our first donors, followed by a company that had the financial and administrative capacity to receive grants when CIJA’s predecessor organisation (i.e., the Syrian Commission for Justice and Accountability, whose personnel were, in the main, retained by CIJA upon its establishment) had no formal administrative structure nor any type of capacity to handle
funds. By that time, already had a strong foothold inside Syria as well as a lengthy portfolio of projects implemented with donor funding. By the end of 2011, a number of trainings had taken place allowing the establishment of an investigative cadre of forty-seven Syrian nationals. In the first months of 2012 these teams started proving that set goals were achievable and they secured first caches of Syrian Regime documentation. By mid-2012, over 200,000 pages of regime documents had been secured. The documents were not and could not be seen as the property of either or which is why the SCJA was established in May 2012 and registered in the Commercial Registry in the Netherlands in November 2012.

However, donors would not give direct grants to SCJA following its registration. As a nascent organization, SCJA did not have the managerial, administrative or financial capacity to administer grants; as such, donors were reluctant to provide funds directly to the SCJA until such capacity had been built. Meanwhile, for SCJA this was not a problem – as at the time its goal was to ensure the teams could safely collect and extract the crucial documentation while it was possible to preserve it. The urgency with which donors and implementers acted proved wise as the regime has now recaptured most of the territory upon which this evidence, which has been adduced in various proceedings in Europe and North America, was found.

SCJA and its supporters thought it would only be engaged in this activity for two years at the most. In 2012, SCJA, and, as well as project donors and even the wider public, thought that the Syrian conflict would be of short nature. That is the (geo)political, diplomatic and military context in which the SCJA work was happening in 2012 and at the beginning of 2013. Indeed, the early applications to fund SCJA work through show that the immediate goal was for SCJA to collect evidence with the final objective being to turn over this documentation to the Syrian state immediately upon its transition to a democratic form of governance, or once a referral to the ICC had been secured.

, but those of you engaged and following the development of the conflict at the time will recall that this view was widely shared and there was optimism for a positive solution to the war before too long.

The way the conflict and project activities developed in 2013 made it clear that the efforts to collect, preserve and analyse evidence of crimes would have to be of a longer duration than initially anticipated. It was immediately evident to all parties involved, including the donors, that SCJA’s organizational capacity was insufficient to ensure longer term success. Whereas (through and, in the case of ) at that time funded the document collection efforts of SCJA, the EU awarded a grant focusing on the set up of analytical/legal and organizational capacity. This grant was awarded to which, in turn,
was expected by the EU to nurture the organisational (i.e., financial and administrative development) of the SCJA, which it did.

During 2014 the SCJA began receiving direct grants from donors; likewise, certain of the senior SCJA personnel envisioned the application of the model, which was already working well, to other armed conflicts vis-à-vis which domestic and international law enforcement authorities were, or would have, difficult engaging. In this context, the SCJA took steps to strengthen further its organizational set up and structures with an eye to its institutional expansion. In this context, CIJA was established pursuant to Dutch laws which required a significant strengthening of its governance arrangements. Additionally, SCJA personnel were, in the main, offered positions with the newly-established organisation; that is, with CIJA.

The aforementioned re-registration was necessitated by a more immediate consideration: the appearance of “Syria” in the SCJA’s name resulted, in two occasions, in the SCJA’s accounts being closed by different banks. As donors, you will recall that in 2014 this was a major problem for the vast majority of NGOs and organisations operating in Syria as a result of international banks’ attempts to de-risk their exposure to hefty fines and sanctions that were at the time imposed on HSBC and BNP Paribas by the United States Office of Foreign Assets Control, albeit on unrelated grounds. This 2018 working paper by the Overseas Development Institute elaborates on the impact that the banks’ skittishness had upon the humanitarian response to the Syria crisis. Innovative solutions were required to deal with this challenge just like they had been at the start of the conflict. The first time that SCJA’s bank accounts had been closed it took months to find another bank willing to accept its money. The donors were asked but were unable to help us to open accounts with banks in their jurisdictions.

Throughout those early years, SCJA and later CIJA discussed each of the issues above with donors. At no point was the involvement of third parties such as and kept from donors in those early years of SCJA’s beginnings. Indeed, SCJA as well as in turn CIJA were commended by their donors for the transparency with which they handled their missions as well as donor funds.

Indeed, CIJA inherited from the SCJA a robust archive of correspondence and discussions with donors from these formative years demonstrating how these partnerships were developed and I will, on request, provide you with more examples of the same.

Unfortunately, working in conflict zones and in the humanitarian and human rights not-for-profit fields is such that rumours can pose as serious a danger as any other risk. Thus, by the time our organizational set up was put in place and CIJA was functioning independently of
other entities, the rumours by those critical of this work were suggesting that SCJA’s incubation by established companies somehow delegitimised its aims; something that we all know is normal and often necessary for start-up non-profits to demonstrate their viability and responsibility before receiving independent grants.

By this time, the first generation of individuals working for donors on the Syria response had changed; and, once the rumours mentioned above made their way to your predecessors, they naturally reached out to CIJA looking for answers. We correspondingly presented detailed and transparent chronologies of events leading up to foundation of CIJA. We did this in 2014, as well as in 2015 and 2016; that is, every time donor representation changed - and every time to the satisfaction of donors as evidenced by the expansion of donor support to CIJA.

Finally, it was agreed with donors in 2014 that CIJA had to absorb some risk and start appearing publicly in order to counter the damaging front-for-intelligence-services narrative. Thus in 2014, senior CIJA personnel started interacting with selected media outlets as well as at symposiums and conferences where the setup of SCJA and its transitions to CIJA were always declared.

In 2016, CIJA further strengthened its organizational set up and capacity by registering as a foundation with a new set up of the Board of Directors as well as that of the Board of Commissioners.

OLAF

This leaves the matter of the allegations made in the OLAF press release of 24 March 2020.
In the meantime, CIJA stands ready to provide you with any correspondence and documentation which you may wish to have in order to demonstrate the accuracy of the assertions made by me in this letter to you. As always, CIJA stands ready to answer any and all questions which any of you may have. Equally importantly, we seek your advice and assistance with our approach to facing down any and all attacks upon CIJA and, as the coordinator of the CIJA response, I would welcome all of your thoughts and suggestions.

In conclusion, it is important for me to note that I believe a wider discussion should be had between CIJA and its donors regarding these matters. As such, I would suggest strongly that we organise a teleconference to discuss this matter as a group at a date and time which is convenient for all – ideally with some urgency. It is for this reason that I am including all of your email addresses in the “to” rather than the “bcc” field. You will note that the list is rather exhaustive and includes non-Syria-related donors, and I would urge all of you to consult others who, in your respective views, ought to be part of this discussion. Finally, I would encourage you to consult with one another independently of CIJA, as you see fit – in accordance with longstanding donor practice which has served to foster the development of CIJA.

In the meantime, should you have any immediate questions, I can be reached by return email or on my mobile: +35

On behalf of the CIJA Board of Directors
Hi - 4pm your time yes. My number is +35

On 11 May 2020, at 14:35, @minbuza.nl wrote:

Hi, glad to hear you are all well. Could you maybe speak at 4 pm? What's your WhatsApp number?

From: @cijaonline.org
Sent: maandag 11 mei 2020 14:22
To: @cijaonline.org
Cc: @minbuza.nl; @minbuza.nl
Subject: Re: Delicate question

Dear , Dear ,

I hope you are both well and coping with the challenges the pandemic has sprung up. Do let me know if one or both of you want to chat anytime between now and 17:00 your time today at which point I am scheduled to speak to the journalist myself. The issues he is looking at pertain to the time the SCJA was set up in 2012-2013 and having discussed issues with already I am also preparing a statement that was to go to the group of our donors funding our work in Syria. I will include you in our email to donors but happy to discuss beforehand should you wish to.

All the best,

On 11 May 2020, at 12:22, @cijaonline.org wrote:

Greetings!
Anyhow, is the communications genius within the CIJA and is atop all this. As I understand it, she has a lengthy brief to donors which will go out later today. In the meantime, I am copying her here should the you lot wish to discuss anything in the interim.

My warmest regards, as ever,

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From: @minbuza.nl
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 11:29 AM
To: @cijaonline.org>
Cc: @minbuza.nl>
Subject: Delicate question

Dear

I am writing with a delicate question. We got a question from a journalist today about the NL role in CIJA. We wonder if this could be linked to the recent developments around the OLAF investigation. Could you let us know what the situation is and whether you expect any consequences for CIJA? We would like to hear from you before we attempt to answer any questions.

Warm wishes,
Ha allen,

in opvolging van mijn mails van gisteren het volgende. En ik heb met van CIJA gesproken. Vannacht volgde bijgevoegde brief (van 13 kantjes!) aan alle donoren. CIJA geeft aan dat de huidige interesse past in een bredere aanval op het werk van CIJA, die gestart is door Het onderzoek van OLAF ziet niet op CIJA, maar de journalist is wel geïnteresseerd in het werk van CIJA (van oprichting tot nu). richtte zich daar gisteren dan ook op, en ook de brief bevat zeer veel details over de oprichting en werk van CIJA.

We gaan daarom nu eerst de journalist beantwoorden:
ja wij steunen CIJA, nee wij zitten niet in de board. Om vervolgens nogmaals met te spreken over onze resterende vragen.

En stel daarom voor dat we de journalist laten weten dat wij (naast steun DSH) CIJA steunen met een project uit het MRF van 1,6 mln die loopt vanaf 1 oktober 2019 t/m 30 september 2021 en valt onder de categorie Bevordering van de internationale rechtsorde/strijd tegen straffeloosheid.

Hoor graag of jullie het hiermee eens zijn.

Groet,
Dear ,

Unfortunately today and tomorrow are tricky for me too with many other obligations but Friday would be fine too. We have enough info to answer the journalist for now.

Thank you,

From: @cijaonline.org>
Sent: woensdag 13 mei 2020 09:34
To: @minbuza.nl>
Cc: @minbuza.nl>
Subject: Re: CIJA statement to donors

Dear ,

Sorry I was not able to get back to you yesterday, I am working on public strategy and should be done later today. I can speak at 11:30 your time or late afternoon (after 16:30 your time) or tomorrow afternoon. Otherwise I can ask or if this doesn’t work. Please let me know what works for you and we will find the time.

Many thanks,

On 12 May 2020, at 14:14, wrote:

Dear ,

Thanks so much for sharing. This is a long and complex issue as we can see! It would maybe be useful to have an additional call on it at some point, as we have a few further questions. We may have more questions so it could be useful to follow up.

In general it may be useful to prepare a short document with main messages that you want us donors to grasp?

Thank you,
Many thanks. Understanding CIJA’s wish to counter any inaccurate reporting, for what it is worth I would strongly advise that any statement be as short as possible, and focus on the positive impact of CIJA’s work and its overarching objective of driving accountability in the Syrian crisis. I would also advise against attempting to rebut any specific allegations, given that CIJA does not have access to the OLAF report.

Further media attention, including English language, seems likely at this point – I would welcome coordination with donor colleagues on our own reactive lines, as well as views on the wider issue, in particular from those representing EU Member States.
On this, can I ask whether CIJA is engaging directly with EU Delegation Syria colleagues: presumably they are best placed to shed further light on the situation. I would also be grateful if CIJA could clarify the reference in 10.2.g, for those who have not seen – to a Belgian court finding 10.2.g liable to repay €378k to the EU in relation to the Iraq project mentioned below. Is that accurate?

Best wishes,

10.2.e
Greetings Both!

I told me that you would like to see the judgement in the appeal. I cannot find it and so have requested same from counsel in Brussels and shall send that along when it arrives. What I did find is the appellate, which I believe was filed on or about 27 April; it is attached.

Warmest regards,
Ha,
Ik check t even. Je hoort nog.
Groet

Van: @minbuza.nl>
Datum: 15 mei 2020 om 14:32:35 CEST
Aan: (FP Amsterdam) @om.nl>
Onderwerp: OLAF onderzoek naar 'Rule of Law project in Syria'
Prioriteit: Hoog

Dag,

Ik probeerde je al even telefonisch te pakken te krijgen. Ik heb je contactgegevens van ontvangen. Ik ben op zoek naar iemand die mij meer kan vertellen over een onderzoek van OLAF naar een Rule of Law project in Syrië. BZ heeft deze week vragen ontvangen van een journalist van Trouw die vroeg naar de Nederlandse steun aan CIJA (Commission for International Justice and Accountability). We zijn vervolgens op een pers statement van OLAF gestuit, waarin wordt aangegeven dat er een onderzoek heeft plaatsgevonden naar een niet nader genoemde organisatie en dat het de autoriteiten van NL, België en het VK heeft ingelicht over het onderzoek en mogelijke verdere stappen. BZ is een donor van CIJA en we zouden daarom graag achterhalen of het onderzoek inderdaad op CIJA ziet.

Hoor graag of ik bij jou aan het juiste adres ben of jij me anders wellicht verder kan verwijzen.

Veel dank alvast.

Groet,
Ha,

Heeft het doorgegeven aan FEZ, of in ieder geval hun CU of het hiervoor in aanmerking kwam inderdaad.

Groet,

Hi,

Ik kreeg de vraag van onze, of dit al bij de malversaties-postbus van FEZ gemeld is. Zo niet, dan weet ik ook niet precies hoeveel zin het heeft om dat te doen terwijl we de inhoud van het rapport nog niet kennen, maar ik dacht ik meld het voor de zekerheid even en laat het verder volledig aan jou.

Groet,

Dag,

Wij hebben inderdaad het rapport van OLAF nog niet in handen weten te krijgen, zijn verder goed op de hoogte denk ik. Spreek later vandaag nogmaals met CIJA en ook het VK (die tevens genoemd worden in het persbericht van OLAF). Je kunt mijn gegevens aan doorgeven voor verdere info.

Groet,
Goed van je te horen.

(cc) stuurde ruim een week geleden het bijgevoegde bulletin hierover en afgelopen vrijdag stond er een uitgebreid artikel in Trouw.

Helaas hebben wij het rapport dat OLAF o.a. naar ons OM heeft gestuurd nog niet in kunnen zien. OM verwijst ons naar de EU en vice versa. Volgens mij weten wij dus niet veel meer (en stonden collega’s van ook al in contact met CIJA hierover), maar misschien dat zij wel meer weten dan wij als zij denken te weten over welk project het gaat dus wie weet wel rechtstreeks contact. Zo niet dan lijkt het mij prima als jij op basis van het bulletin antwoordt.

Groet!


From:  
Sent: vrijdag 22 mei 2020 11:43  
To: DAM-MASHREQ <DAM-MASHREQ@minbuza.nl>  
Cc: BLN-PA <bln-pa@minbuza.nl>; @minbuza.nl;

Subject: FW: OLAF investigation and report into a rule of law project in Syria

Beste collega’s,

Syrië desk AA wijst op persbericht van OLAF mbt fraude bij “rule of law project in Syria”. Aangezien NL aantal keer met naam genoemd wordt, vraagt AA zich af in hoeverre BZ op de hoogte is. noemt CIJA-project uit 2013/14 als het mogelijk betreffende project.

Willen jullie rechtstreeks van een stand van zaken voorzien? Of mij info sturen we vanuit de PA kunnen overbrengen?

Groet,


From:  
Sent: woensdag 20 mei 2020 10:07  
To:  

Subject: OLAF investigation and report into a rule of law project in Syria

Lieber ,
as we just discussed over the phone, I’d be very interested in speaking with someone, who was part of the investigation into the rule of law project in Syria (https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/24-03-2020/olaf-unravels-fraud-among-partners-rule-law-project-syria_en).

We have a few questions regarding the allegations and background of the investigation. We’d be delighted if you could therefore direct us to someone involved.

Please let me know, should you need any further information from our side.

Thank you very much for your help and best regards
Hi, nog even de vraag of we FEZ op de hoogte moeten stellen? Ivm parlementaire verplichting om corruptie gevallen aan te kaarten- hoe staan jullie daar in?

Reactie van OLAF. Niet heel veel info, zal nog even de specifieke afdeling aan ze doorsturen.
Dank je [redacted]. Ik ben binnengekomen met [redacted].

Zorg dat je goed bent bij het diner.

Dank, ik kom eraan.
Dear [Redacted].

Forgive me for writing late but I wanted to see if I could catch you tomorrow if possible. Whereas I have suggested group donor meeting towards the end of the week, it does not appear likely to work for most of them. Meanwhile, things are developing in the background such that it requires CIJA to be able to [Redacted]...

As you know only the [Redacted] have managed to locate the Olaf file and review its contents. This together with the information you managed to gather last week is the only avenue we can follow at the moment. I wonder if you might be open to having a bilateral meeting with the [Redacted] so that we can see if we can somehow move CIJA to the position where it is able to start addressing these claims publicly. Please let me know if this would be possible and potential times that work. I will ask the [Redacted] the same.

All the best,

[Redacted]
Ze checken het.

Van: [redacted]@ec.europa.eu <[redacted]@ec.europa.eu>
Datum: dinsdag 26 mei 2020 2:25 PM
Aan: [redacted]@minbuza.nl
Kopie: [redacted]@ec.europa.eu, [redacted]@ec.europa.eu
Onderwerp: RE: OLAF investigation Rule of Law project in Syria

Dear [redacted],

I will consult our Legal unit to check whether this is possible and let you know.
Best regards

[redacted]

European Commission
European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)
Office [redacted]
Phone: +32 2 [redacted]
E-mail:[redacted]@ec.europa.eu
Ha 10.2.e,

Nee er wordt op dit moment binnen OLAF gecheckt met hun juridische afdeling of het rapport aan ons verstrekt kan worden.

Heb bij 10.2.e aangegeven dat 10.2.e mij kan benaderen, dus heb nog niet gereageerd. 10.2.e kan aangeven dat wij ook proberen het rapport te bemachtigen en dat ik graag bereid ben verder toelichting te geven via de tel of mail.

Begrijp daarnaast dat er binnenkort een afspraak met de donors wordt ingepland, zullen daar ook bij zijn. Neem aan DUI ook.

Groet,
10.2.e

Hi 10.2.e,

Hieronder nog een mail van de Duisters over CJIA. Neem aan dat wij het rapport nog steeds niet hebben?

Was jij toevallig van plan 10.2.e schriftelijk te antwoorden? Zou je dat dan misschien ook naar 10.2.e kunnen sturen zodat hij weet wat hij zijn Duitse collega kan vertellen?

Groet, 10.2.e

Verzonden met BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

Van: 10.2.e @auswaertiges-amt.de>
Datum: woensdag 27 mei 2020 10:06 AM
Dear [Name] and [Name],

hope you and your families are still doing well in these special times.

Sorry for bothering you with a project of CIJA. Certainly you are aware of a report about irregularities within a CIJA project that has been financially supported by the EU (https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/24-03-2020/olaf-unravels-fraud-among-partners-rule-law-project-syria_en).

We have been asked to provide further internal clarification into the matter. We are willing to do so, but unable without having access to the OLAF report. We were already in contact already with OLAF but they could not provide us directly with the report.

Best regards,

Auswärtiges Amt
Federal Foreign Office
tel: +49 (0) 30 [Number]
fax: +49 (0) 30 [Number]
mail: @diplo.de
Werderscher Markt 1
10117 Berlin, Germany
Dear all,

One of the donors has informed me that they are unable to join via 
and we do not have the possibility of adding a dial in number. I am changing the venue to 
and calendar invite will be updated accordingly. Even if you are prompted to download the 
app you do not need to do that - you should see the option to “Join With Browser” lower on the screen. This should work for everyone as you can use either internet or phone to join.

Thank you and apologies for last minute change

(Join from computer or phone)

On 27 May 2020, at 17:55,  wrote:

Dear all,

Thank you for to all of those that have responded to the invitation to have a group meeting. It would appear that tomorrow at 15:00BST would work the best for the majority bearing in mind different timezones etc. What I will do is set up an invitation and send it to the following individuals that I understand will represent each of the donors. The invitation will go to each of your emails so please let me know if anyone else should be included so I can add their names:
From CIJA it will be the Board of directors composed of [ ] and chair of the Board of Commissioners - [ ].

As for the format: CIJA will present the situation as it is now before opening the floor to all the donors who are able to offer updates or ask questions. We will then discuss next steps. I am happy to add any other items to the agenda if you have suggestions.

Please let me know if other people should be added to meeting invitation and also if you have not located your invitation in the email/calendar.

All the best,
Beste,

Ter info ... (We hebben CIJA nooit voor werk in Syrie gefinancierd maar goed). Maar tot nu toe gaat de pers er verder niet echt op in. - maar laat graag weten als je dat anders ziet.

Dank,

From: @cijaonline.org>
Sent: zondag 31 mei 2020 23:25
To: @minbuza.nl>; @minbuza.nl>
Subject: Russia statement

Dear both,

Thank you so much for your interventions at the donor meeting. Just as I thought we could start focusing on the positive, the following statement of Russia MFA was brought to my attention on Friday night. I am not sure if you are aware of it. This raises a whole new level of concern for us. Since they call the Netherlands out specifically, I am sending to you first before sharing with others. I wonder if we could discuss at some point tomorrow?

All my best,

https://www.mid.ru/foreign_policy/news/-/asset_publisher/cKnonskJE02Bw/content/id/14141659? p_p_id=101_INSTANCE_cKnonskJE02Bw& 101_INSTANCE_cKnonskJE02Bw_languageId=en_GB
Hi,

We hebben een samenvatting ontvangen van het OLAF onderzoek tegen ARK en partners in Syrie van 2012-2013 (inclusief de voorganger van CIJA, SJCA). Nogmaals, dit gaat over EU financiering, niet NLs geld. De uitkomst is niet helemaal duidelijk, maar het lijkt erop alsof ze het dossier hebben overgedragen aan het OM in NL om verder onderzoek te doen. We zijn in contact met het OM.

Wel is er dus wat media aandacht geweest.

Is het nog nodig om hier verdere melding van te maken? Verder willen we als NL evengoed door met financiering van CIJA (vanuit DMM niet DSH) maar zullen wel extra audits/controles uitvoeren.

Dank,
Yes, de audit kun je via deze link in Sophia en bijgevoegd vinden.

Audit is uitgevoerd door [10.2.o]. Ze geven aan dat financial statement CIJA voor (activiteit 4000001104) periode 1 januari 2018 – 14 januari 2019 "were prepared, in all materials respects, in accordance with the requirements laid down in the grant decision awarded under the grant 4000001104, dated 8 February 2018".

Ah, hebben we een copy van die audit in Sofia?

Hi [10.2.o],

DMM heeft in juli 2019 een uitgebreide ORIA (Organizational Risk and Integrity Assessment) opgesteld. Maar ik controleer bij [10.2.o] of er daarvoor nog een COCA heeft plaatsgevonden, kon het niet zo snel vinden. Ik laat het weten. 11

Verder ter info: CIJA heeft 30 september 2019 een audit rapport ingediend. Deze is op 3 december geaccordeerd en op 16 december naar CIJA gestuurd.

Groeten,

[10.2.o]
Vrijdag spreek ik de journalist over CIA. Kunnen jullie even voor mij nagaan of we een COCA hebben gedaan indertijd of niet? Dat zou wel nuttig zijn om te weten. Weet jij dat nog?

Dank,
Geachte MAASTERS,

Voor het betreffende (financiële) aandeel en betrokkenheid in een mogelijke maatschappij bestaat er een draagmoes. Dit zegt dat een draagmoes op de ondersteuning is bedoeld om een actie meer te faciliteren. Wij registreerden de mededeling dan ook niet in onze database omdat de looptijd verscheurt. Geen enkele van de drie van de door ons geëxamineerde acties.

Adresvolgorde voor het passeren van informatie:

102 g en 11

Samenzwering

Geachte MAASTERS,

Zondagmiddag 31 juli 2002 8:10

Ferrari Motorsport<br>gisteren<br>

Subj: Re: CUA statement te delen

Is er nog verder nieuws te delen in deze zaak? Wij vragen verder vragen over de vragen van TROUW en willen graag weten wat er hiermee gebeurt. Wij willen graag weten wat er hiermee gebeurt. We hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project? Wij vragen verder vragen over de vragen van TROUW en willen graag weten wat er hiermee gebeurt. We hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project?

CUA

Geachte MAASTERS,

Geeft u me de informatie alsjeblieft. Wij hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project? Wij vragen verder vragen over de vragen van TROUW en willen graag weten wat er hiermee gebeurt. We hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project?

CUA

Geachte MAASTERS,

Geeft u me de informatie alsjeblieft. Wij hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project? Wij vragen verder vragen over de vragen van TROUW en willen graag weten wat er hiermee gebeurt. We hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project?

CUA

Geachte MAASTERS,

Geeft u me de informatie alsjeblieft. Wij hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project? Wij vragen verder vragen over de vragen van TROUW en willen graag weten wat er hiermee gebeurt. We hebben wel een vraag: wat betekent het laatste project?

CUA

CUA
Artikel is verzonden in Trouw gepubliceerd, zie: http://www.trouw.nl/. De journalist heeft ons al eind mei laten weten dat zij van plan viel om ondervragen aan Oxfam over de LRA-acties in Noord- en Zuid-Sudan. We hebben hen gisteravond op de hoogte gesteld van de NOS-geledingen. We hebben al contact met Oxfam en we verwachten dat zij binnenkort ons een reactie zullen bieden.

Natuurlijk zullen we hun reacties ook naar jouw rekening sturen. Als er meer nieuws is, zullen we je zeker op de hoogte houden.

Beste [Naam],

[Inhoud van e-mail of bericht]

[Signature]

[Naam]
For now we will hold off from issuing this statement but will have to act quickly once his article is out - which I expect on Friday or this weekend.

We at CJA are ready to engage with donors and discuss the situation in which we find ourselves as and when it suits you.

All the best,

On 15 May 2020, at 16:31

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for sharing this with us, we appreciate the close cooperation and effort to keep donors informed.

I discussed this issue earlier in the week. I have not yet received views from more expert colleagues but for what it is worth my own instinct would be [REDACTED].

You already provided this clarifying information to the specific journalists you are aware are already looking at CJA-related pieces. That would be my own starting point.

That said these are of course CJA decisions to make all of the above offered with that context in mind.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 15 May 2020 18:06
To: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: CJA Statement to donors

Dear All,

I wanted to give you advance notice as a statement that the CJA plans to issue publicly - later this morning. This statement is attached. I am available to answer any questions. Should you have them.

Best regards,

On 11 May 2020, at 01:30

Dear [REDACTED],

Please find a letter from CJA Board on the recent misleading rumors surrounding our work. I hope we can find the time in the very near future to discuss this urgent matter.

Best regards,

CJA Letter to its Donors, 11 May 2020.docx
<ANNEX I - BRX Letter to CJA Re Conclusions of CHR Investigation.pdf>
41st document on recent allegations.pdf