

March 2010

Dear Colleagues, Friends

Libra Advisory Group is delighted to announce that it has joined Coffey International Development. The acquisition follows several years of collaboration on delivery of major projects in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The Libra team are looking forward to building on Coffey's international client-base, long project management experience, strong financial base and wide range of development expertise. The new arrangement provides Coffey in-house access to top-class technical expertise in security, justice and stabilisation operations, offering clients a combination of leading technical and policy expertise with large-scale implementation capability.

There is a growing consensus within donor governments that issues of stabilisation and recovery in post-conflict and other fragile states cannot be addressed through 'single issue' interventions, but by a combination of assistance to enhance the delivery and oversight of security and justice, political governance, and economic management. This recognition, recently underlined by the UK Department for International Development's White Paper commitment to treat access to security and justice as a basic service, has been the driving factor behind our decision to join forces. Libra's expertise in Rule of Law, Security Sector Reform, Justice Sector Development and stabilisation operations, combined with Coffey's strong track record in governance, monitoring and evaluation and economic transformation, will allow us to deliver integrated services across the entire **Statebuilding and Peacebuilding** spectrum.

In addition there is an emerging convergence of the development agenda with concerns about conflict and violent extremism. In a wide range of countries, the need for a coherent approach to security, justice, governance and livelihoods in unstable environments has never been more pressing. Working together, Coffey and Libra are ideally placed to help clients address these issues in a way which ensures greater effectiveness and value for money. Libra brings to Coffey world-class technical expertise in security and justice sector development and stabilisation operations, underpinned by the skills of our network of associates. Coffey's long-track record in large scale project management, wide range of development expertise and worldwide client-base, especially in the US and Asia-Pacific, will enable Libra to rapidly increase the scale and breadth of our client offerings.

At a practical level, points of contact within Libra will remain the same. The Libra senior management team of Andrew Rathmell, Peter Wilson, Piet Biesheuvel, Rohan Burdett and Alex Martin will continue to oversee delivery of all project activities, supported by our team and the wider capacity within Coffey. Please contact any of us directly with any questions or queries; for general enquiries our address remains info@libraadvisorygroup.com.

Thank you for the cooperation and support you have shown to Libra over the three years since our inception. We look forward to continuing our relationship as part of the Coffey team, and to working with you in the future.

Libra Advisory Group

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